

52/2

COPY.

LC DEPUTIES KINCROSS LONDON.

OUR CABLE DATED EIGHTH REFERS STOP DETAILS NOW KNOW JEWS KILLED  
SEVENTYFIVE WOUNDED EIGHTY ABOUT ONE THIRD OF JEWISH HOUSES  
BURNT LEAVING FAMILIES HOMELESS STOP ALMOST ALL JEWISH SHOPS  
COMPLETED LOOTED ECONOMIC BASIS SHATTERED STOP MOST GRATEFUL  
YOU CONFIRM NECESSARY ACTION BEING TAKEN ALSO MONETARY RELIEF IS  
A DIRE NECESSITY.

JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.

Received 12. 12. 47.



COPY.

ADEN.

52/3

WLT DEPUTIES KINCROSS LONDON.

WE ADEN JEWS IN GREATEST DISTRESS STOP DURING THREE DAYS STRIKE  
ARAB RAIDERS AND ADEN PROTECTORATE LEVIES TURNED LIKE WILD  
BEASTS AGAINST JEWISH LIVES WORST THAN NAZIS STOP THEY BURNT  
DOWN MANY HOUSES INCLUDING TWO SYNAGOGUES AND OUR ONLY TWO  
SCHOOLS STOP ALMOST ALL JEWISH MERCHANT SHOPS WERE BURNT AND  
LOOTED STOP OVER HUNDRED FORTY JEWS MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE  
SHOT DEAD AND WOUNDED INCLUDING SOME BURNED ALIVE AND KIDNAPPED  
STOP FINALLY BRITISH FORCES IN TRANSIT MIRACULOUSLY ARRIVED AND  
STOPPED VIOLENCE OTHERWISE WHOLE ADEN JEWRY WOULD HAVE BEEN WIPED  
OUT STOP KINDLY RUSH HELP FOR OUR FUTURE SECURITY AND SEND BY  
AIR VOLUNTEER LAWYERS TO INVESTIGATE OUR PITFUL POSITION AND  
DEFEND OUR CASE STOP CABLE AMERICA FOR FINANCIAL HELP URGENT  
ADEN JEWISH SUFFERERS.



J. C. 12-12-47

52/4

## THE ADEN RIOTS

### 75 Jews Killed

[By our Parliamentary Correspondent]

In reply to Mr. S. S. Silverman, M.P., a statement on the Arab attack on the Jewish quarter in Aden was made by Mr. Rees-Williams, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the House of Commons on Wednesday. He said: "A partial Arab strike was observed in Aden on December 2 without incident in the morning, but in the evening a large hostile demonstration approached the Jewish quarter in the part of Aden known as the Crater."

"The police succeeded generally in protecting the quarter for a time, but looting of Jewish shops ensued which could not be wholly controlled in spite of the use of tear smoke and deliberate rifle fire. As the situation was deteriorating, the Governor called for military aid and the Air Officer commanding, who is Fortress Commander, assumed control. One hundred Arabs had been arrested and the night passed quietly. The following day, there was fresh fire-raising mob action in the Crater, and the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency in the Colony and authorised the Fortress Commander to enforce a curfew in the Crater."

### Jewish Shops Looted

"In spite of these measures, extensive looting of Jewish stores and shops occurred, and many Jewish houses were burned. About 900 Jews living in the suburbs of Sheikh Othman were evacuated to the near-by Jewish migration camp, which was under military protection, but 14 Jews who remained behind were killed by rioters. H.M.S. Contest, H.M.S. Cockade, and H.M.S. Challenger, being at the time at Aden, landed a detachment of naval ratings, which had a valuable effect, and on the morning of December 5, two companies of the North Staffordshire Regiment reached Aden by air from Egypt."

"On December 6, the Governor reported that the situation had become generally calmer, although sporadic fire-raising attempts had still been made. He stated the known casualties on that date to be 34 Arabs, two Indians, and 75 Jews killed and some hundreds of both Jews and Arabs wounded."

"H.M. Government and the Governor of Aden deeply deplore this loss of life. I have not yet received a detailed statement of the property burned or otherwise destroyed, and the figures of casualties that I have given are the latest available. On December 8, the Governor reported the situation since Saturday last to be generally calm, and all necessary measures are being taken to maintain order and to ensure protection for all communities."



52/5

CK/IP

17th December, 1947.

Dear Mr. de Rothschild,

I am enclosing copies of two telegrams received from Aden by the Board of Deputies and passed on to us with a request that the matter be considered by the Council of the Central British Fund.

The request of the Aden Emergency Committee will be put on the Agenda of the meeting to be held on the 31st instant, but I wonder whether you feel that in the meantime a token grant could be made to that unhappy Community who, according to all newspaper reports really suffered badly.

You will recollect that after similar incidents in Tripoli the Council voted an amount of £500 for the Jewish Community there.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Anthony G. de Rothschild, Esq.,  
New Court,  
St. Swithin's Lane,  
E.C.4.



52/6

22nd December, 1947.

CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF AND REHABILITATION.

REQUEST FOR HELP FOR JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ADEN.

An urgent request was received by the Board of Deputies from an Aden Emergency Committee formed after the recent riots.

The facts <sup>as</sup> stated by Mr. Rees-Williams, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the House of Commons on Wednesday, the 10th instant, are as follows:

(Here follows an extract from a cutting from the Jewish Chronicle of the 12th instant, and marked with pencilled brackets).

It will be recalled that after similar incidents in Tripoli in November 1945, a grant of £500 was made for the Jewish Community there, and the Council may wish to grant aid in this case also.

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2 F  
COPY

5217  
The Church House,  
Great Smith Street,  
S.W.1.

22nd December, 1947

Reference 78774/47

Dear Dr. Mowshowitch,

Following your call at the Colonial Office with Colonel Lipton on the 9th December, a telegram was sent to the Governor of Aden informing him of the wish of the Board of Deputies of British Jews to help in any way possible members of the Jewish community affected by the recent disturbances at Aden, and enquiring as to needs and any special way in which the Board could help from here.

The Governor has replied that if the Board could send substantial financial assistance it would be greatly appreciated. He states that the Jews in the immigrant camps now number about 4,000, all Yemenis. The funds which have been provided by the Aden Government for the immediate necessity of feeding cannot last long, and further money help from any Jewish source will therefore be very welcome.

The Governor added that much material has been contributed in response to his wife's appeal for clothing, and that it may suffice for immediate needs. Stocks of medical supplies are also stated to be adequate. The main need is money for sustenance.

The enquiry in your letter of the 11th December addressed to Sir Bernard Reilly as to compensation for sufferers from the disturbances has been referred to the Governor for his consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) Trafford Smith



52/8

BRAUDITORS      JERUSALEM

REMITTED TODAY ONE THOUSAND POUNDS CREDIT  
YOUR ACCOUNT ANGLO PALESTINE BANK STOP  
PLEASE PASS TO JOINT FOR RELIEF DISTRESSED  
JEWS ADEN FROM CENTRAL BRITISH FUND

STEPHANY

h

23/12/47



5219  
AIRMAIL.

MS/IL

23rd December, 1947.

Dear Mr. Braude,

The Council of the Central British Fund would like to make a grant of £1,000 to alleviate the distress among the Aden Jews who were victims of the recent Arab riots there, and I have today instructed our Bank to remit to the Anglo-Palestine Bank in Jerusalem for the credit of your account the sum of £1,000. Would you be good enough to place this at the disposal of the American Joint in Jerusalem for the particular purpose mentioned above.

We are using the services of the American Joint as we understand that they have an office and staff resident in Aden who are helping these people. We shall be glad to have your acknowledgment in due course.

We have today cabled you as follows :-

REMITTED TODAY ONE THOUSAND POUNDS CREDIT  
YOUR ACCOUNT ANGLO-PALESTINE BANK STOP PLEASE  
PASS TO JOINT FOR RELIEF DISTRESSED JEWS ADEN  
FROM CENTRAL BRITISH FUND.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

I. Braude, Esq.,  
P.O. Box 347,  
Jerusalem,  
Palestine.



52/10

AIRMAIL

MS/IL

23rd December, 1947.

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

This opportunity serves to confirm our conversation on the telephone this afternoon when I informed you that the Central British Fund had decided to give a sum of £1,000 towards the amelioration of the conditions of the distressed Jews in Aden, and we should be very much obliged if you would kindly advise your Jerusalem Office to use this sum for the purpose of assisting the Jewish victims of the recent riots in Aden.

I am today sending by telegraphic transfer a sum of £1,000 to Mr. I. Braude of Messrs. Braude & Co. at Mizpah Building, Princess Mary Avenue, Jerusalem, with instructions that he should hand it over to your office. I think perhaps that is the easiest way for all concerned.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

M. Beckelman, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
19 Ave de Teheran,  
Pe 8.



52/11

Note re A D E N.

The American Joint Distribution Committee have an office in Aden, they have had it for years. They recently increased their contribution by £750 a month to approx. £1,500 per month. They also gave a one time grant of £1,000 to cover repairs. The Jewish Agency also made a one time grant of £1,200 for the same purpose.

The A.J.D.C. have sent in additional medical personnel, medical supplies and clothing. The Jewish Agency are also sending clothing. There is need for further funds for the benefit of persons outside the towns for the provision of medical supplies, clothing and the restoration of houses. There are about 4,000 people outside the towns.

A one time grant of £1,000 would be much appreciated. It could be administered through the office of the A.J.D.C. in Jerusalem who are in contact with Aden.



52/12

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

19, RUE DE TÉHÉRA  
PARIS (8<sup>e</sup>)

TÉLÉPHONES  
LABORDE 07-70  
79-84

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

December 30, 1947

Mr. M. Stephany  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

We refer to your letter of December 23rd, 1947, in which you advised us of the telegraphic transfer by you to Mr. I. Braude of Messrs. Braude & Co., to be turned over to our office for assistance to the distressed Jews in Aden. We have already advised our office in Jerusalem that these funds are en route and that they arise from a contribution made by your committee.

We are very glad to have been able to make our facilities available in the administration of these funds. As we previously advised you, our office in Jerusalem is in close contact with the situation in Aden and has been administering a program of relief in that area for the past several years. In connection with the recent disturbances in Aden JDC has increased its grants for assistance and we know that this contribution on the part of the Central British Fund is most welcome and will be extremely helpful in meeting the emergency.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

HK:leg



52/113

5th January, 1948.

MS/IL

Dear Mr. Katzki,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo. At their meeting on Wednesday last the Council of the Central British Fund confirmed the action which had been taken in remitting £1,000 to the Jewish Community in Aden. They are prepared to view sympathetically requests for further assistance, but in the meantime should be glad to know how the contribution has been used and for what specific purpose any further amounts which the Central British Fund might be able to provide, could be expended; further whether there is any possibility of assistance being given in kind, i.e. by the despatch of goods, clothing, etc., and if so what is most needed.

We should be glad if you could arrange to let us have as soon as possible a further report on the situation of the Jews in Aden and what further assistance they require.

With best thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Herbert Katzki, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
19 Rue de Teheran,  
Paris 8.



COPY

52/14

JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,  
Section A, Street No.1.,  
CRATER. ADEN.

7th January, 1948.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews,  
Weburn House,  
Upper Weburn Place, London, W.C.1.

Dear Sirs,

We are in receipt of your letters dated 30th December 1947 and 1st January 1948, and thank you for the action you have taken with the Colonial Office to ensure security for the future in the prevention of such grievous disturbances as occurred in the early December, 1947.

We note with thanks that the Central British Fund have sent £1,000 for the relief of the victims and we prefer that the following commodities be sent instead of money:-

White Shirting.      White Poplin  
White & Khaki Drills.   Printed Hairecords or Cambric.

For your information, we beg to state that on the 5th January 1948, large crowds of Arabs wanted to storm the Jewish quarter at about 4.30 p.m. as a result of the explosion of a local hand-made bomb, killing and wounding a number of Arabs in the Khusaf locality about one mile distant from the Jewish quarter, but the prompt action of the police prevented the mob from forcing their way into the Jewish quarter.

At about 9 p.m. the mob repeated their attempts but were dispersed by the police.

At present, the Jewish Community is confined to their quarter, as any Jew who ventured outside our quarter without an escort was subjected to violence or intimidation.

We do not know when we shall enjoy the freedom of movement and be able to resume our daily life as before.



52/15

The Government has been sending us relief rations for past three weeks, but last week the quantity was reduced considerably by 7/8ths to 4/5ths of the original allotment, and this is so insufficient to the barest needs of sufferers that we could not distribute it. We had to pay Rs.5,000 to the Government for last week's rations, whose value comes up to this amount. We certainly cannot yet afford to pay our own way for rations, as our people have been impoverished by the recent excesses, and even those whose property is intact are not able to resume business due to the threats and intimidation prevailing outside the Jewish quarter and the inability of the Government to suppress instigators and deport the foreign undesirables and vagrants, who have no visible means of living except robbery and loot. These undesirables have been entering the Colony freely, and now number tens of thousands.

We have approached the District Commissioner on the question of rations, as per copy of our letter dated 6th January 1948 attached. We are gravely concerned at the question of rations, as we have not got the means of feeding our destitute community. We shall be highly obliged if you will move the authorities concerned with a view to securing this essential relief until such time as we can stand on our own.

We attach a translation of an extract from an Arabic Weekly Paper for your information.

Thanking you sincerely for all that you are doing for our community and for your readiness to continue to afford us your help.

Yours sincerely,  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

(sgd) G.N. Banin

CHAIRMAN.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

19, RUE DE Téhéran  
PARIS (8<sup>e</sup>)

TÉLÉPHONES  
LABORDE 07-70  
79-84

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

January 8, 1948

Central British Fund  
for Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Attention: M. Stephany

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Thank you very much for your letter of 5th January concerning The Central British Fund grant to the Jewish Community in Aden. As soon as we have any report material, for which we have already made request, we shall be very glad to send it along to you. We have noted that The Central British Fund would be prepared to view sympathetically requests for further assistance should additional aid be required. We shall be very glad to keep you fully informed as to this, and will also advise you after making enquiry, as to the possibility for giving assistance in kind.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

HK/fc



32/17

COPY OF EXTRACT FROM BRAUDE & Co.

11th January, 1948.

3. I wish to confirm the receipt of your cable sent on the 23rd December 1947, which was received here on the 31st December, 1947, reading as follows:-

REMITTED TODAY ONE THOUSAND POUNDS YOUR ACCOUNT ANGLO-  
PALESTINE BANK STOP PLEASE PASS TO JOINT FOR RELIEF  
DISTRESSED JEWS ADEN FROM CENTRAL BRITISH FUND

Immediately on the receipt of the cable I paid the sum of L.P.1,000 - to the office of the Joint Distribution Committee for release of distressed Jews in Aden as a contribution from the Central British Fund. When I have, at last received the credit note from the Bank I find that the Bank has deducted the sum of L.P. 2.-, being difference on exchange and has credited our account with only L.P. 998.-. I shall therefore be obliged if you will pay the difference of L.P. 2.- to the credit of my account at Westminster Bank Ltd., Euston Road Branch in order to settle this difference.

With kind regards and best wishes to Mrs. Lallie and yourself,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) I. Braude.

P.S. I understand from my parents that Lallie is now a proud mother of two and I shall appreciate if you will let me have Lallie's new name and address so that I may write to her an admiring letter, direct.



62/18

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

19. RUE DE TÉHÉRAH  
PARIS (8<sup>e</sup>)

TÉLÉPHONES  
LABORDE 07-70  
79-84

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

January 22, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
for Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation  
Weburn House  
Upper Weburn Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Our office in Jerusalem has advised us that they have received your contribution of £1,000. via Mr. I. Braude of Messrs. Braude & Co. This was a contribution you made for assistance in Aden.

You will be interested to know that Mr. Harry Viteles at our request recently went to Aden in order to survey at first hand the present situation of the Jewish people there. His return to Palestine is expected shortly, at which time we shall receive his report and recommendations. In the meanwhile we have preliminary information that 3,900 Yemenite refugees in camps and 3,500 Adenite Jews representing 70% of the entire community, require supplementary relief, medical service, clothing until normal life is re-established. Mr. Viteles suggests, however, that the despatch of additional help in cash or kind await his return and report.

As soon as we receive any additional information we shall be very glad to share it with you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katski*  
Herbert Katski  
Secretary

HK/fc



JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

52/19

*Adresse Télégraphique: Tcasso*

Paris, 20th January 1948.  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance.

Référence à Rappeler  
dans votre réponse

EL.

Annexes

THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
L o n d o n W.C.I.

Gentlemen,

We have the pleasure to inform you,  
that on its meeting on January 12th, the JCA's  
Council of Administration agreed to make a grant

of £ Stg. 1.000.-- (thousand)

to your Association for the purpose of relief in  
ADEN, necessitated by the recent riots.

This amount will be shortly held at your  
disposal and you will be informed in due time.

Very truly yours

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

*Hamper*



52/20

# THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS

Woburn House,

Upper Woburn Place,

London, W.C.1

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

9th February, 1948.

### REPORT

*Item 8*

#### I. The Committee met on 9th February, 1948.

There were present Professor S. Brodetsky (in the Chair)

Mr. L. Bakstansky  
Mr. A. Bornstein  
Rabbi I. Brodie  
Dr. A. Cohen  
Mr. Israel Cohen

Mr. B. Janner, M.P.  
Mr. F.M. Landau  
Dr. S. Levenberg  
Mr. B.B. Lieberman  
Mr. Harry Myer

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Dr. N. Barou, Ald. A. Moes, J.P., and Dr. P. Riebenfeld.

#### II. JEWS IN MOSLEM COUNTRIES:

- (a) ADEN. Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P. who had returned from his mission to Aden on behalf of the Board of Deputies, gave a detailed report on the position there and the measures taken in regard to security and the claims of victims for compensation for the grave damage suffered.

The main purposes of his visit were:-

- (1) To ascertain on the spot what had actually happened and how the disorders had arisen;
- (2) To impress upon the Authorities the anxiety of the Aden Jewish community regarding their security, and to urge on them to take the necessary steps to protect the community in the future;
- (3) To reassure the local Jewish population both by active and moral support that British Jews stood by them;
- (4) To help the local residents to reorganise themselves, and to assist them to establish their claims for compensation.

The effects of the excesses which occurred on December 2-5, 1947 were only too evident. The total number of Jews killed was approximately 80, and the number of wounded was large. The amount of damage done by looting and burning of houses and shops was of a very substantial nature.

He came to the conclusion that the disturbances would not have caused so many deaths and so much damage if they had not found the Administration unprepared for such an outbreak. The local police, small in numbers, were too weak, even if they were willing, to deal with the mobs of coolies and other floating elements of the population, and when this became obvious, the Aden Protectorate Levies were called in. The discipline among these detachments had been overestimated, and many of them appear to have assisted the rioters and looters. Riots were not stopped until the Levies were replaced by a force of sailors from naval ships which came to the harbour. Later, British troops were brought in by air.

In spite of the arrival of several companies of British troops and their continued presence, such an atmosphere of fear had been created that more than a month after the disorders the Jewish population still lived in grave fear, and did not feel safe enough to go about their business in any parts of the town of Aden. Jewish shops remained closed and the shopkeepers dared not open them unless they were to be given the protection of armed police.

In formulating the needs of the area for better security, Mr. Janner had strongly urged both the Aden Authorities and the Colonial Office to adopt various suggestions for the maintenance and improvement of order. He hoped that these measures would be imposed. He pressed for an official and impartial enquiry into the disorders with a view to discovering those



52/21

responsible, and the assessment of damage done to each individual claimant. A special magistrate has been appointed to conduct the Enquiry in regard to the assessment of damages, and Mr. Janner believes that it is most probable that the request for a full enquiry will be granted.

He had assisted the local Jewish population in preparing their claims, of which 500 had already been filed. They were most appreciative of the presence of a representative of British Jewry, and this in itself had helped in some measure to restore their morale. He had co-operated in the formation of local Jewish committees to accept responsibility for representing the interests of the community, and attempting to re-organise their shattered lives. Nevertheless, they still felt very insecure, their economic foundation has been seriously weakened and at the moment many Aden Jews saw hope for themselves only in emigration. From the latest information Mr. Janner has received, there appears to be some easing of the position, and a number of shop-keepers have opened their shops.

Mr. Janner visited the camp outside Aden, where there are some 3,800 Yemenite Jews. He has been assured that there is no question of their compulsory repatriation to the Yemen. Confirmation of this assurance has come to the Board from the Colonial Office.

(b) Position of Jews in Moslem Countries in General.

Mr. Elie Eliachar, head of the Sephardi Community of Palestine, who is travelling on a mission to arouse Jewish and non-Jewish concern for the fate of the Jewish population in Moslem countries, reported on the position and requested the continued assistance of the Board in this vital matter. He stated that the population concerned amount to about 900,000 Jews.

He emphasized that the situation of all these Jews was most precarious. It was known that serious incidents had already occurred in Aden, Bahrain, and Aleppo, and a spark might cause a most serious conflagration. Those now living in the independent Arab States were in the most dangerous position of all.

Mr. Eliachar thanked the President and the Board for the co-operation he had been given while in England. In the few days at his disposal here he had been enabled to meet innumerable Jewish and non-Jewish personalities, representing almost every point of view, and had been assisted in his task of attempting to impress upon all that the situation was one of the greatest urgency. This was not a one-sided political issue; basic human rights were in danger, and this must be the concern of all, irrespective of their party or belief.

At his request, the President of the Board had convened a meeting of representatives of the Agudah, the A.J.A., the Board, the World Jewish Congress, the Sephardi community in this country and other Jewish personalities. A course of united action was agreed upon.

He expressed the hope that some of the efforts initiated would achieve a measure of success, and that the Board with the collaboration of the whole Jewish community in this country would carry on this vital task of attempting to avert the calamity which menaced so many of their fellow Jews.

III. UNITED NATIONS - ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL:

The Committee took note of reports received from the American Secretary of the Co-ordinating Board on the proceedings at Lake Success of the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information. He had presented a statement on behalf of the Board of Deputies and other Jewish organisations, comprising the Co-ordinating Board. In this statement, he had re-submitted a proposal, previously submitted on behalf of the Co-ordinating Board to the Human Rights Commission at Geneva, and which had been there referred to the Sub-Commission. This was a proposal to limit the freedom of expression in matters involving the "Dissemination of religious and racial prejudice and hatred".

The principle embodied in the text had been defeated by a 5 - 5 vote. But this was only a technical defeat, and the concrete interest aroused provided a solid base for a further approach to the next Session of the Commission on Human Rights in May of this year.

The Secretary reported on the stage reached in the consideration of the



52/22

MS/AC

20th February, 1948

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

Just a line to thank you very much indeed for your hospitality on Tuesday. I could not write to you before as I have been "snowed under" since then.

May I remind you of your promise to let me have a copy of the report which you received from Viteles regarding the situation in Aden as I want to put this before the Council as soon as possible.

With best regards and looking forward to seeing you in London at the beginning of next month.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. J. Schwartz.  
119, Rue St. Dominique,  
Paris, 7.



52/23

MS/AC

23rd February, 1948

Dear Mr. de Rothschild,

During the course of a discussion which I had with Dr. Joseph Schwartz on Tuesday last, the question arose concerning the situation of the Jews in Aden. Dr. Schwartz said that they had received a report from Viteles but they had not been able to study it in detail as it had only arrived on that morning.

The problem, apparently, is divided roughly into two parts:-

1. The Jewish population of Aden.
2. The Yemenite refugees in the Camps.

So far as the Jews in Aden are concerned, it will be necessary, apparently, to re-establish the Hebrew schools and to provide teachers as well as to restore buildings and provide housing accommodation. For the next few months it will be necessary to send food to supplement what is already being provided, also clothing and a certain amount of cash relief.

In order to assist in the rehabilitation of the Jews in Aden after the preliminary period, it has been suggested that two loan funds should be set up; one of £20,000 for the re-establishment of small businesses and the other of a similar amount for housing.

Dr. Schwartz said that as the J.D.C. had been doing so much for the Yemenite Jews even before the recent outbreak and as Aden is a British Protectorate, he felt that the J.D.C. should continue to look after the Yemenite people and that any contribution which the C.B.F. was able to make should be for the Jews in Aden.

P.T.O:



The immediate requirements appeared to be about £10,000; £6,000 to cover Relief for two months; £1,200 for medical expenses for one year; £1,200 for clothing for a similar period; £500 for educational purposes and £500 for educational equipment. You will recollect that at the last Meeting, the Council placed a sum of £2,000 at your disposal for Relief in Aden. Since then, we have received a contribution of £1,000 from the JCA which they would like used for the assistance of Jews in Aden, so that we have £3,000 at our disposal

I shall be glad if you will give this matter your consideration and let me know whether you would like to make a Grant now or wait until our next Meeting, which I think should be held during the course of the next two or three weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Anthony de Rothschild, Esq.,  
New Court,  
St. Swithin's Lane,  
London, E.C.4.



TELEPHONES: EUSTON { 3925  
3926  
3979

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
INLAND: "MIGRATE, KINCROSS, LONDON"  
CABLEGRAMS: "MIGRATE, LONDON."

# THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF & REHABILITATION

PRESIDENT:  
CHAIM WEIZMANN Esq., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D.

HON. PRESIDENT:  
THE RT. HON VISCOUNT SAMUEL, P.C.

CHAIRMAN:  
ANTHONY G. DE ROTHSCHILD, Esq.

Joint Secretaries:

L. BAKSTANSKY, LL.B., B.Sc. (ECON)  
M. STEPHANY, F.L.A.A.

WOBURN HOUSE,

UPPER WOBURN PLACE,

LONDON, W.C.1.

MS/AC

23rd February, 1948

Dear Mr. Brotman,

I wonder if you could let me have a copy of Barnett Janner's report on his visit to Aden? I understand from the Joint that they have received a report from Viteles of which I have asked them to let me have a copy. As soon as it comes to hand, I will show it to you.

Yours sincerely,

  
Secretary.

A. Brotman, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
Woburn House,  
London, W. C. 1.



52 26

MS/AC

23rd February, 1948

Dear Mr. Montefiore,

As you know, the J.C.A. has made a Grant of £1,000 to the Central British Fund for Relief in Aden.

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have written to Mr. Anthony de Rothschild as a result of my recent discussion of the Aden problem with Dr. Schwartz.

Do you think that the J.C.A. would be able to do something more for the Jews in Aden? We shall, of course, use the £1,000 which they have sent us, to augment the Grant of £2,000 which the C.B.F. Council had already made for further assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

L. Montefiore, Esq.,  
37, Weymouth Street,  
London, W.1.



52/27

24. 2. 48

37 Weymouth Street

W.

Dear Mr. Stephenson,

You seem to have

sent the cartons as well

I have sent your letter on to

Sr Henry d'Arcey de Boldern...

Yours truly  
J. Stephenson



52/28

MS/AC

25th February, 1948

Dear Mr. Joseph,

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter which I sent to Mr. Anthony de Rothschild regarding the situation in Aden, together with one sent to Mr. Montefiore, through whom I am hoping to get the assistance of the Jewish Colonization Association.

Mr. Montefiore told me that he has passed it on to Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

H. Oscar Joseph, Esq.,  
7/8, Princes Street,  
London, E.C.2.



52/29  
AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
87-83  
INVALIDES } 87-55  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

26 February 1948

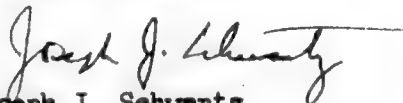
Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Weburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W. C. 1, England

Dear Mr. Stephany:


Enclosed is the report prepared by Mr. Viteles on the basis of his ~~on-the-spot~~ survey of conditions in Aden, resulting from the pogrom which took place in December, 1947. I am sure you will find it a very complete analysis of the present situation. The financial requirements and recommendations are outlined on pages 59 to 64. I am sure Central British Fund will wish to give them their sympathetic consideration.

Mr. Barnet Janner has indicated his interest in reading this report. We do not have any more copies and if you have no objection, I would appreciate it if you would make this one available to him.

Sincerely yours,

  
Joseph J. Schwartz  
Chairman

encl.

*P.S. Would you please return this to us after  
you have finished with it.*  




52/30

MS/AC

27th February, 1948

Dear Mr.Oungre,

I duly received your letter of the 29th ultimo, from which I learned with much pleasure that the Council of Administration of the Jewish Colonization Association had made a Grant of £1,000 Sterling to our Association for the purpose of relief in Aden, necessitated by the recent riots.

A cheque for this amount has now been received and the official receipt has been forwarded to Messrs. Stevenson, Hardwood and Tatham in accordance with the practice which was inaugurated during the War.

I should be very much obliged, however, if you would kindly convey to the Council of Administration of your Organisation the best thanks of the Honorary Officers and Council of the Central British Fund for their kind donation.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Louis Oungre, Esq.,  
The Jewish Colonization Association,  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris.



52/31

MS/AC

8th March, 1948

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

I have very much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo enclosing the report prepared by Mr. Viteles on his survey of conditions in Aden, resulting from the disturbances which took place there in December last. Details of the financial requirements and recommendations are being considered by the Council of the Central British Fund at their next meeting and I will advise you of the result in due course.

In accordance with your request, I will pass the report on to Mr. Barnett Janner and will send it back to you as soon as he has finished with it.

With best thanks and all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz.  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7e),  
France.



*E. Aden* 52180  
Anglo-Jewish Association

Interview of Prof. Norman Bentwich with the Governor of Aden,  
March 16, 1948.

I saw the Governor with the Chief Secretary Mr. Thomas. My first request was that he would invite the leading Jews and the Heads of Arabs together in Government House to get them to cooperate again. There should be no political pledge and nothing said about Zionism. They should meet as British subjects in order to resume the old relations. His Excellency said that he would be glad to do that.

For the rehabilitation of the Community, the first need was greater security. His Excellency said that he would insist on British Troops remaining. They would not be withdrawn except over his dead body. I urged too that Jews should be enrolled in the Police Force. There were a number of young Jews ready to join on the same conditions as Arabs, though I express the hope that the pay of the Police would be improved. He said that it would need a large number to protect the Jewish quarter. I observed that Jewish Police were not wanted for that purpose, but to take their part in the normal work. He said it was more difficult now than before the troubles, but he would consider the suggestion sympathetically.

As regards Housing, I asked that the Government would advance compensation for the destroyed houses or grant loans to enable rebuilding. I said the Joint were going to help and sending an Administrator for the Community. His Excellency said that there were difficulties about loans because every financial grant had to be approved by the non-official members of the Legislative Council. He had applied to the Colonial Office for authority about advancing compensation in certain cases.

As to the Schools, I said it was most urgent to rebuild the Jewish Girls' School which might be used for Boys and Girls. The Trust of the School property allowed for that. He said that the normal Government aid to a grant-aided School was one-third of the cost of building. I urged that the Government should do something more in this case and pay two-thirds or at least half of the cost on account of compensation for destruction. Delbourgo who has a contracting firm was willing to do the building at cost price. His Excellency asked that an estimate of the cost should be made at once and the Government would then consider the position.

The general position of the Community. His Excellency spoke of the need of leadership and courage. He proposed to make Mr. Banin a provisional member of the Legislative Council in place of Mr. Yahooda who has left Aden and is not returning until after the summer. I told him of the movement among the youth which was conducted by the Palestine Shelichim to foster self-respect and pride. His Excellency said the Palestine Shelichim should be chosen with great care. He wanted the confirmation of Dr. Magnes or Viteles of each application for visa.

Hashed Camp. The presence of 4,000 Jews in the Camp was a serious problem. It might be a danger to security if it became permanent. Industrial projects cannot, therefore, be approved or electric lighting and other amenities. There was now no oppression of Jews in the Yemen, the famine situation was long passed. On the other hand, he could not force the Jews in the present state of things to return to the Yemen when there was revolution. He had great admiration of the work of Dr. Olga Feinberg. I told him of the education activity by Palestinians. There would be difficulty he thought in the way of quick emigration to Palestine from Aden. A transport of 4,000 Yemen Jews for Palestine would be ill regarded by the Arabs. It would have to be done with great care. But he was anxious to be relieved of the large numbers in the Camp. The Aden Levies who are the present guards might not be reliable if there were further troubles about Palestine in May.



THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES OF THE BRITISH JEWS

*generally known as*

The Board of Deputies of British Jews

President:  
PROFESSOR S. BRODETSKY.

Vice-Presidents:  
DR. ISRAEL FELDMAN.  
BARNETT JANNER, M.P.

Treasurer:  
B. B. LIEBERMAN.

Solicitor:  
CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL.

Secretary:  
A. G. BROTMAN.

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1

17th March, 1948.

M. Stephany Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I enclose the original letter which I have received from the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden, on the subject of relief.

I should be grateful if you would look into the complaints made in the letter and see if anything can be done through the J.E.C.

I should be grateful if you would kindly return the letter to me when you have finished with it, or have taken copies of what you require.

Yours sincerely,



Secretary.

AGE/MB.

P.S.

I also enclose a letter from an individual in Aden, of the type which I mentioned at the last meeting of the Council of the C.B.F.



COPY

JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,  
ADEN. 52/33

8th March, 1948.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews,  
Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place,  
London W. C. 1.

Dear Sirs,

Today the Arabs have issued hand bills  
reading:-

"Every person who has any information regarding  
the strikes that took place in the beginning of  
December in Aden may forward such information  
to the following lawyers:-

Sheikh Mohamed Abdulla,  
Mohamed Hassan Handa,  
Mohamed Ali Lokman,

at the house of Mohamed Abdulla, the lawyer, Aden,  
between ~~10.00.00~~ of 4 to 7 p.m. every day and  
9 to 12 a.m. Sunday beginning from today so that  
their names may be submitted to the Inquiry  
Commission."

We consider Professor Bentwich may not  
stand the strain of representing us before the Inquiry  
Commission has finished its findings, due to his old age,  
while Mr. Diamond may not be able to represent us in the  
Inquiry Commission without doing injustice to the  
compensation cases. It is therefore essential that  
Counsel be sent to represent us before the Inquiry Commission,  
the more so when the Arabs are being represented by three  
local lawyers.

Mr. H. Viteles. You will recall when Mr. Viteles was  
here he telegraphed to all Jewish Relief Organizations in  
the world to stop sending any money to Aden direct but to  
be diverted to the Joint, and since then we have not  
received any money from him with the exception of the  
following telegram reading:-

"Relaying Paris your cable 24th received 29th  
ultimo sorry delay urging early decision stop  
Refusal Aden Jews here participate loan fund  
creates difficulties implementation plan"

in reply to our cable dated 24th February, 1948, reading:-

/...



"Airmailed you letter dated 22/2 together account statement our balance Rs.14660 grateful you cable remittance your share supplementary rations for one month stop Reference rehabilitation scheme for loans destitute merchants urgently awaiting your cable news of remittance loans enabling merchants restart business situation improved."

We enclose copy of a letter we sent him on 22nd February 1948 with Statement of Account, showing a balance of cash-in-hand as Rs. 14,659-14-0.

#### Supplementary Relief.

Mr. Viteles required us to distribute supplementary ration to the needy people and sufferers to the extent of Rs.10,000 a week, of which the Aden community was to contribute Rs.2,500 while the balance of Rs.7500 would be taken from the Relief Fund, which will be augmented with funds from and received through the Joint, including moneys contributed by the Aden Communities in Agmara and Palestine. Mr. Viteles has not so far responded to our cable request for the provision of the Joint's share of a weekly amount of Rs.7,500 to enable us to carry on the weekly supplementary ration which was proposed by him when he was here, as you will see from his cable reply to our telegram. The result is that we could not carry out the supplementary ration any more due to lack of funds and the complete silence of Mr. Viteles in this respect. We think it would not be out of place to mention here that Mr. Viteles warned us while in Aden that the majority of the Aden Jewish community were suffering from malnutrition and that due to the scanty ration distributed by Government, he emphasized that supplementary ration was very necessary. To our great dismay, he himself caused this supplementary ration to be stopped.

#### Rehabilitation Scheme.

Mr. Viteles took with him the necessary statistics showing the minimum amount of money required to rehabilitate the destitute traders so that they can restart business which will make them eventually independent of relief and stand on their feet once again. Mr. Jenner has a copy of the rehabilitation scheme. You will see from Mr. Viteles' cable that it appears that any relief that will be sent to us from the Joint and other Jewish relief organisations through the Joint, is being made dependent on the contributions required from the small Aden Jewish community in Palestine. As you know, Mr. Viteles has received all the funds which have been donated by the World Jewry for the relief and rehabilitation of Aden Jewry and is withholding these funds thus impeding rehabilitation of the destitutes.

/...



It is really paining to see our brethren here roaming in the streets with nothing to do, while money contributed for our destitutes is being withheld unnecessarily with Mr. Viteles. 52/35

The Aden Jewish Community would be much obliged if you will please help them in this respect and request Mr. Viteles not to break the moral of the community by his silence and negative attitude.

Mr. Viteles has already imposed a great financial burden on the impoverished community of Aden vide his decisions attached. He is now trying to withhold the despatch of relief to us by making the Joint's share of relief further dependent on forcing contributions from the small Adenite community in Palestine. We are really surprised at the negative attitude of Mr. Viteles towards us after all that he has seen and in spite of his expression of sympathy during his visit to Aden. The position of the community is most distressing and deserves material and moral aid. Incidentally, we might mention that so far we could hardly collect 21700 for Counsel fees.

We have opened an emergency hospital and have also started a makeshift school housed in a private premises in order to take care of our children lest they become lost in the streets. This may have to close if Mr. Viteles continues to impede the despatch of relief to us.

We shall highly appreciate your good offices to the end that Mr. Viteles be made to cooperate in this respect and send us money for relief and rehabilitation as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



52/36.

18th March, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

At its meeting on the 10th instant, the Council of the Central British Fund, considered what action it should take in regard to further assistance for the Jewish community in Aden, and I was able to advise them of the immediate requirements which you gave to me arising out of Mr. Viteles' report. These requirements were:-

- £6,000 to cover relief for two months.
- £1,200 to cover medical expenses for one year.
- £1,200 for clothing for one year.
- £ 500 for educational purposes.
- £ 500 for educational equipment.

making a total of £9,400.

The Council of the Central British Fund felt that as Aden is a British Colony, we should do as much as possible and they therefore decided to make a grant of the whole amount required to cover this programme, in addition to the £1,000 which we voted in December last and which was sent to you at that time. The Council, would, however, like the Jewish community in Aden to know that the British Jewish community has provided this money, and I should be glad if you would kindly take steps to see that this fact is brought to their notice.

.....



52/37

When I spoke to you on the telephone on Tuesday before you left for Paris, you suggested that we should send the money to Palestine, but I do not want to do this as Palestine being now outside the sterling ~~area~~, any remittances which we make to that country will go against our quota of remittances to soft currency countries, and I am most anxious to conserve our resources in this direction as much as ever possible. We could, of course, make any remittances direct to Aden, where there is, I believe, a branch of the National Bank of India Ltd. Before doing anything in regard to remittances, I shall await your further news.

I have this morning received from the Board of Deputies of British Jews a letter from the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden, in which they refer to various matters; they appear to be suffering very much from lack of funds. The letter is dated the 8th March and they state that on the 22nd February they had a balance of cash in hand of Rs. 14,659 which is, I suppose, a little over £1,000. They state that they are in urgent need of weekly remittance to cover a supplementary relief which Mr. Viteles arranged should be given, but that at the time of writing, this had been stopped.

I am very loathe to comment on this without full knowledge of the facts, but the Council is very anxious that whatever assistance they can give should be given as speedily as possible and I should therefore esteem it a very great favour if you could look into this and let me know as soon as possible what is actually being done. As mentioned above, we can, of course, easily make remittances from this country and if this would be of any help, I shall be happy to arrange this immediately upon hearing from you.

At the meeting of the Council, Mr. Bootman raised the question of sending some lawyer from this country who would help in the preparation of the claims for compensation and the Council said that it would be prepared to consider sympathetically a grant for this purpose. This would, of course, be in addition to the amount which has already been



52/24

voted for relief and rehabilitation.

I should be glad if you would kindly give this matter your usual prompt attention and let me have a reply as soon as ever possible, as we are most anxious that help should reach these people without undue delay.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. J. Schwartz,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
19, Rue de Teheran,  
Paris, 8.



52/39

18th March, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Brotman,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, together with the original received from the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden. I return this letter herewith, having made copies. \_\_\_\_\_

I have today written to Dr. Schwartz of the American Joint Distribution Committee advising him of the decision of the Council of the Central British Fund taken at its last meeting, and also enquiring whether he has any information regarding the present situation in Aden.

As I wrote to him, I am loathe to comment on the remarks made in the letter regarding the supplementary relief and rehabilitation scheme, until I hear what Mr. Viteles has to say, but it seems a little unsatisfactory to me.

Would it be a good thing to cable Bentwich asking him to ascertain from the Emergency Committee and advising us whether funds were still being held up. If you think so, I will send a cable tomorrow.

With regard to the compensation cases, you will recollect that the Chairman said the Council would consider sympathetically making a grant towards the cost of sending a lawyer to deal with this. From what the Emergency Committ



52/40

- 2 -

writes about Bentwich and Diamond, this would appear to be necessary. What do you think?

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.G. Brotman, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
Woburn House.



THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES OF THE BRITISH JEWS

*generally known as*

The Board of Deputies of British Jews

52/141

President:

PROFESSOR S. BRODETSKY.

WOBURN HOUSE.

Vice-Presidents:

DR. ISRAEL FELDMAN.

BARNETT JANNER, M.P.

UPPER WOBURN PLACE,

LONDON, W.C.1

Treasurer:

B. B. LIEBERMAN.

19th March, 1948.

Solicitor:

CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL.

Secretary:

A. G. BROTMAN.

1. Anthony Ltd.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
W.C.1.

2. Anthony,

Thank you for your letter of the 18th March, returning to me the original letters received from Aden, in respect of relief funds.

Since you sent the letter, we have spoken on the telephone and, as a result of that, you were considering whether to cable Bentwich or not. I shall be very glad indeed to hear when you have a reply from the J.D.C. on the questions you have put to them.

The matter of sending Counsel is not definitely settled yet. Today I had a cable from the Jewish Emergency Committee, as follows:-

"BENTWICH SAYS INQUIRY PROBABLY ENDS BEFORE HIS  
CAPTURE STOP SATISFIED DIAMOND WILL STAY TILL  
THE CASE IS SETTLED"

The unsatisfactory part of the cable is that it used the words 'probably' and that Diamond will stay 'till the important cases are dealt with', but presumably not the 'unimportant cases' which, to the persons affected, may appear to be just as important as any other. I have not discussed the matter yet with Janner, who has the matter at his fingers' ends and I shall only be able to tell you what decisions are made some time next week.

Whilst I am on this Aden question, may I suggest that you consider altering the last paragraph of Minute 558, Help for the Jewish Community in Aden, to read somewhat as follows:-

Mr Brotman referred to the fact that Prof. Bentwich and Mr. Diamond were at present in Aden, the latter

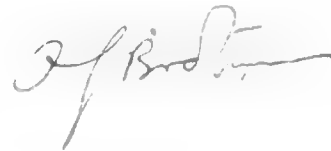


50/40

*his special*

having as ~~his~~ task the handling of over 500 individual cases and both together acting on behalf of the London Jewish Community at the general enquiry, under Sir. Harry Trusted. It was not sure that both would remain long enough to cover the enquiry and the question would perhaps arise of sending another lawyer to stay to the end of the proceedings. In this case funds would have to be provided. After it had been suggested.....  
..... sympathetic consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Secretary.

50/4B.



52/43

MS/AC

23rd March, 1948

Dear Brotman,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, contents of which I note.

I should be glad to hear from you further after you have discussed the matter with Janner.

With regard to your suggested alteration of the Minutes, I am afraid these have already gone out. If you think it necessary, perhaps at the next meeting you might amplify what you said then.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.G. Brotman, Esq.,  
The Board of Deputies of British Jews,  
Woburn House,  
London, W.C.1.



MS/AC

24th March, 1948

Dear Mr. Janner,

As arranged during our conversation on the telephone this afternoon, I enclose herewith the original report received from Mr. Viteles on the situation in Aden.

The recommendations will be found on pages 59 et seq.

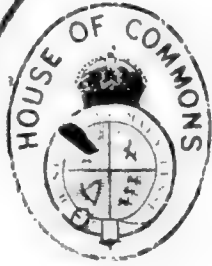
I shall be glad if you will let me have this back as soon as possible as it has to be returned to the American Joint Distribution Committee, being the only copy which they have.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Barnett Janner, Esq., M.P.,  
200, High Holborn,  
London, W.C.1.





62/45  
March 25th. 1948.

Mr. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund for Jewish  
Relief and Rehabilitation,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I thank you for your  
letter of March 24th. enclosing  
the report received from  
Mr. Viteles, and I hope to let you  
have it back early next week after  
I have perused it.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



Barnett Janner



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
INVALIDES } 87-83  
87-55  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

25 March 1948

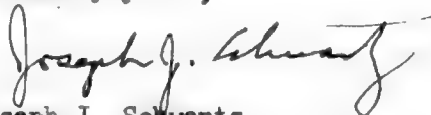
Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W. C. 1, England

Dear Mr. Stephany:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 18 indicating the grants made by the Central British Fund toward the relief of the Jewish community of Aden. I much appreciate the fact that you voted such substantial funds for this purpose. We have agreed to cover the remaining phases of the budget recommended by Mr. Viteles for the Aden Jews and the Yemenite refugees, including a grant of \$16,000 for the repair of houses. We were able to meet only in part, however, Mr. Viteles' recommendation for a loan fund of £20,000, and approved £10,000 for it. Mr. Viteles does not feel that £10,000 is sufficient to meet the need for loans, but unfortunately our present financial situation does not permit us to increase this. I realize that Central British Fund cannot make any grant toward the loan fund but in view of your great interest in the problems in Aden, I wonder if you would take the matter up with JCA and urge them to provide funds for this purpose.

Immediately after receiving your letter I cabled Mr. Viteles of the grants made by the British Fund and asked him to inform the Aden Jewish community that this assistance was being granted by the British Jewish community.

Sincerely yours, .

  
Joseph J. Schwartz  
Chairman

JJS:h



F



POST OFFICE

OVERSEAS TELEGRAM

Received at the  
Central Telegraph Office  
London, E.C.1

From *Paris*

CR 5123 PARIS 0001798.25.27. SSHEURE =

No. 1842  
Office Stamp  
27

= ELT = STEPHANY MIGRATE LONDON=

YOUR LETTER MARCH EIGHTEEN PLEASE TRANSMIT IMMEDIATELY  
THREETHOUSAND FIVEHUNDRED FIFTY POUNDS NATIONAL BANK  
OF INDIA ADEN ACCOUNT DOCTOR OLGA FEINBERG=  
SCHWARTZ=



52/48

MS/AC

30th March, 1948

BY AIR MAIL

G.N. Banin, Esq.,  
Chairman,  
Jewish Emergency Committee,  
Section A, Street, No.1.,  
CRATER, ADEN.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your letter of the 8th instant, addressed to the Board of Deputies of British Jews, I have very much pleasure in informing you that the Council of the Central British Fund has made a grant of £9,400 towards the programme of relief and rehabilitation of the Jewish Community in Aden, which has been prepared by Mr. Viteles, the representative of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Arrangements are being made for the transfer of part of this money, which will be administered by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, to-day, but I should like you and your colleagues to know that the Jewish Community of Great Britain is very cognisant of your distress and is anxious to do all in its power to help you.

It was in order to carry out this desire that the Council of the Central British Fund made the grant of £9,400 referred to above, but as we are always anxious to reduce administration costs we are making use of the services of the American Joint Distribution Committee, who have administrators on the spot and will use the money to the very best advantage.

We shall be glad to hear from you from time to time as to

P.T.O.



62/49

how the progress of the rehabilitation of the Jewish Community  
proceeds.

Yours truly,

Secretary.



52/80

MS/AC

30th March, 1948

Dear Mr. Oungre,

Jewish Community in Aden

I enclose herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter which I have to-day sent to Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsmid regarding the assistance needed for the rehabilitation of the Jewish Community in Aden and should be glad of your kind help in having this matter brought before the Council of the Jewish Colonization Association at its next meeting.

With very best thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

L. Oungre, Esq.,  
Jewish Colonization Association,  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris (8e),  
France.



MS/AC

30th March, 1948

Dear Sir Henry,

You will recollect that the Jewish Colonization Association made a grant of £1,000 to the Central British Fund for the purposes of relief in Aden, necessitated by the recent riots. You will also recollect that at its last meeting, the Council of the Central British Fund made a further vote of £9,400, which included the £1,000 of the Jewish Colonization Association, for the purpose of covering various items of relief in the Colony.

I have this morning heard from the American Joint Distribution Committee that that Organization has agreed to cover the budget that their representative had prepared, including a grant of £4,000 for the repair of houses. Their Mr. Viteles also recommended a loan fund of £20,000 for the purpose of the re-establishment of the Community, but towards this the Joint are able to provide £10,000 only as, unfortunately, their financial position does not permit any further amount.

Mr. Viteles does not think that £10,000 is sufficient to meet the need for loans and Dr. Schwartz has asked me whether I would bring the matter before the Jewish Colonization Association with a view to your making available a further sum either direct or through the Central British Fund.

I should be very much obliged if this matter could be brought before the next meeting of your Council and, in order to facilitate this, I am sending a copy of this letter to-day to Mr. Louis Onagre in Paris.

P.T.O.



52/52

With very best thanks in anticipation of your kind assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsamid, Bart.,  
Somerhill,  
Tonbridge,  
Kent.



MS/AC

30th March, 1948

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 25th instant and yesterday your telegram of the 27th instant came to hand.

I am arranging to-day to remit the sum of £3,550:-:-: to the National Bank of India at Aden to be credited to the account there of Dr. Olga Feinberg. I note that you have asked Mr. Viteles to see that the Aden Jewish Community is informed that this contribution has been made by the British Jewish Community and, no doubt, I shall hear from them in this connection in due course.

In the meantime, I wonder if it would be possible for you to ask either Mr. Viteles or your Agent in Aden of the actual use to which this £3,550:-:-: has been put as I should like to be able to advise the Council of the Central British Fund on this point in the hope that they might be able to make further contributions if this should be necessary.

I note what you write with regard to the scheme for the establishment of a loan fund of £20,000:-:-: and will certainly ask the Jewish Colonization Association whether they can do something to help in this direction. As soon as I hear from them, I will let you know.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz.  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E)



COPY

52/54

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH APPEAL

All Correspondence to the Secretary,

GO/HS 25/04

P.O. Box 5991,

Johannesburg.

31st March, 1948.

The Secretary,  
Board of Deputies of British Jews,  
Woburn House, etc.

Dear Mr. Brotman,

Re: ADEN

Your confidential communication of the 27th February addressed to the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, was referred to my Executive Committee. I have pleasure in advising you that my Executive resolved to participate in the cost of sending a Silk to Aden to establish the claims to the restitution of their property by the local community.

The extent of our participation is one quarter of the total cost, provided that our share shall not exceed £1,000. As soon as you advise us what the cost is, we shall make immediate arrangements to remit the money to you.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

G. Osrin,

Secretary.



Aden file  
52/55  
NB/SK.

2nd April, 1948.

Dear Mr. Benin,

I had a good and quick journey home.  
I reached Cairo on Friday evening, and left the same night,  
and was home by Saturday afternoon.

I find that the Central British Fund has  
voted some thousands of pounds for the help of the Community.  
I am advising them how it can best be applied, but there  
will be, I hope, a considerable sum for the Schools.

I have heard from Mrs. Levy, the Head-  
mistress of the Evalina de Rothschild School in Jerusalem,  
that she is looking for a Headmistress for the girls' School,  
but had not yet found a qualified teacher who is willing to  
come.

I must thank you again for all your work,  
and I hope it will be that there will be a reward for it.

My wife was delighted with the presents.

My greetings to Mr. Yaish and Mr. Ahroness,  
and all who helped.

Yours sincerely,  


S. Benin, Esq.,  
Innovation Stores,  
The Crescent,  
ADEN.  
-----



*F. Aden* 52126  
Anglo-Jewish Association

Report on the Riots in Aden, December 1947 submitted  
by Prof. N. Bentwich.  
5 April 1948.

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(1) Incidents.

The essential facts of the riots at Aden are sufficiently clear and did not require elaborate investigation. Following the decision of the United Nations about the partition of Palestine at Lake Success, the Arab League invited all the Arab communities in the Middle East to declare a strike. The Moslem community in Aden, which is composed both of Arabs and of Indians, responded, and declared a strike from 2nd of December to the 4th. The Administration claims that it had no power to prohibit a strike, but it took some steps to get an undertaking from the Moslem leaders that the demonstration should be peaceful. The commandant of the police, indeed, admitted at the Inquiry that he was apprehensive of violence. On the morning of the 2nd the police were able to control the crowd which marched around the Jewish quarter in the Crater of Aden, though there was some stoning by the crowd and some bottle-throwing in defence by Jews from their houses. In the afternoon the crowd assembled again; and this time the stoning soon became much more serious. The mob turned to arson and to looting of Jewish shops and stores, and set fire also to the Jewish schools which are on the borders of the Jewish quarter. The armed police and the fire-brigade were unable to control the situation, and the use of tear-gas was ineffective. In a few hours the police were at the end of their tether and informed the Governor that it was necessary to call in military aid. The Governor then asked the Air-Officer-Commanding to take over responsibility for law and order.

An internal security scheme had been worked out by the A.O.C. with the civil authority; and the only military force on the spot which was to aid the civil power was the Aden Protectorate Levies. That force was composed of Arab tribesmen from the Protectorate, under English officers of the R.A.F. regiment, who had a very imperfect knowledge of Arabic, and Arab officers. They were brought to Crater that night, and did break up the mob, but not till all the Jewish motor cars had been burnt, and considerable damage done to property. On the morning of the 3rd the mob returned to the work of destruction. It was composed mainly of coolies from all parts of the Colony. They turned quickly from stoning, arson and looting to murderous attack. The civil authority and the Levies failed effectively to deal with them, and at noon the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency, and the A.O.C. exercised the power of placing the whole of Crater, including the Moslem and the Jewish quarters, under a strict curfew. It was announced that anybody breaking curfew was liable to be shot. The Aden Levies, who from the beginning had been slow to interfere with Arab looters, soon took part in the looting and in the murderous attacks. They shot at any Jew who was seen in the open or on the roofs of their houses. It was alleged that persons were sniping from Jewish houses; and so the Levies kept up an incessant fire into the houses. It is likely that the sniping, or much of it, was done by odd soldiers of the Levies who strayed from their post. During the rest of the day and the night of the 3rd, the Jewish quarter of Crater was the scene of continuous burning and shooting. 14 Jewish houses and many shops were burnt to the ground; and in the Bazaar and elsewhere over a hundred of the 170 Jewish stores and shops were looted. Fortunately a party of Naval ratings from two destroyers, which had been hurriedly summoned to Aden, were able to take over the patrolling of the Jewish quarter on the morning of the 4th. By the afternoon of that day they replaced the Levies in the quarter, and the shooting and killing ceased. When on the morning of the 5th British troops, who had been flown from the Canal zone of Egypt arrived, the violent part of the riots had come to an end.



Besides the wholesale destruction in the Jewish quarter, the mob attacked Jewish stores at Steamer Point, the more fashionable business centre near the landing place for the ships. Five Yemenite Jews were killed there and one or two stores were looted. But the Levies, stiffened by a mobile column of the R.A.F., were able to check the mob and prevent any large destruction. At the township of Sheikh Othman, some seven miles from Aden, which had a resident Jewish population of a few hundreds and about 500 Yemenite Jews waiting to go to Palestine, the mob on the 3rd started stoning and setting fire to the Jewish houses. There, too, they were soon out of control. The Levies were called in, and in the afternoon it was decided to evacuate the Jewish population to the Jewish refugee camp two miles away in the desert, where some 3,000 Yemenites were gathered. That operation was carried out with fair success; but a number of Jews who failed to join the column or who returned to their homes, were later that day attacked by a new savage mob. 14 were killed, and all the Jewish houses and stores were looted. The police did rescue in the night another hundred who had not gone with the main party. At the Yemenite camp itself there was no incident.

After the outbreak on the first days of December, a few serious incidents occurred later in the month, and twice the military authority had to take over responsibility from the Administration for law and order. But no further grave attack on the Jewish population was made. A British military force has remained in Aden, and a part of it has been stationed in Crater.

#### The General Conditions.

So much for the particular incidents. A few paragraphs may be added about the general conditions which led up to the trouble. For a hundred years of British occupation of Aden the Jews had lived for the most part in friendly and peaceful relations with their Moslem neighbours. In 1932 a minor disturbance occurred, but it had not serious consequences. Throughout the long-drawn struggle over Palestine, the relations of the two communities had not been troubled outwardly. But those who had eyes to see and their ears open noted rumblings which began to disturb the tranquillity. Since 1943 Jews from the Yemen had been infiltrating into the Colony of Aden in increasing numbers. They were fleeing from oppression to the Land of Promise. Some thousands have been able to get to their goal, but some thousands have been waiting. The Administration fearful of attracting too great a mass, would take no responsibility for their maintenance, and the Joint Distribution Committee of America came to their help. The Histadruth of Palestine too felt a responsibility for them and sent one or two young men to organise Hachsharah and prepare them for life in Palestine. They occupy a camp previously used for Italian prisoners-of-war where they are surrounded by wire and under guard. Their habitation is very primitive, but hard as the material circumstances are, they are a happy crowd. They are ruled with devotion and understanding by a noble Palestinian-Russian woman, Dr. Olga Feinberg, who practised medicine in Palestine till 1938, and was then forced to leave her home in Jericho because of the troubles, went to India and did good service in the war. She was returning to Palestine in 1946 from India, and touching at Aden, felt the call to help these refugees. She had no skilled help but maintains order by her personality.

This waiting Zionist element from Yemen was a new factor in Aden; and so was the coming of a much greater number of Yemen Arabs into Aden during the war. They were for the most part wild tribesmen, attracted by the possibility of work, relatively well paid, on the airfields and harbour defences. When the work declined they stayed on, and became casual labourers in the port, half-employed in the coaling of ships, etc. They live, some in the most primitive huts, and more of them in caves. Any opportunity for loot was a godsend; and they were numbered in tens of thousands. The food conditions in the Yemen during the latter part of the war were so hard that they had no inducement to return, and they remained in and about the Crater, a potential danger to security.



The Jewish community were hardly alive to the danger of the changing circumstances. Unlike most Jewish communities in the world, they were less educated than the rest of the settled population. Their own elementary schools were inferior in their staff to those of the Government and other communities, and a very small proportion of the boys, and none of the girls, went on to the secondary schools. In a hundred years they had not thrown up a single professional man, not one lawyer or one doctor, and scarcely one qualified teacher. A few refugee doctors from Germany had come for a time after 1933 but after a few years had moved away. The local leaders of the community were all men of commerce and shop-keepers. Some of the Jews were in secondary industries of tailoring and goldsmiths; and a few of the young men were in departments of the Government; but only in clerical posts. Not one was in the police force, and not one was in any high public position.

Zionism made a growing appeal, particularly to the younger generation, and a number of the young men have already migrated to the Land. The leaders of the community gave to the Palestine funds, and some of them, too, were turning to Palestine as a home. One family, of Messa, exercised for a generation undisputed leadership because of its wealth. When, however, the head of the family died, soon after the First World War, endless litigation about his will reduced the fortune and the other members of the family took a diminishing personal concern. So when the troubles came in 1947, the Jewish community in the midst of the Arab population was without strong leaders, passive and unable to help itself.

Since the riots the Jewish population has gone back to Ghetto conditions, voluntarily imposed. The Jewish quarter, in which the great majority were concentrated before and congested, is now sealed off, as it were, from the rest of the Crater by barbed wire knifeboards from dusk to dawn. And the Jewish storekeepers have abandoned their looted stores in the general bazaar. They are fearful of venturing outside their own quarter. The schools cannot be rebuilt for many months, and such education as can be given is carried on in most unsuitable quarters. A great part of the 4,000 permanent inhabitants have been maintained since the troubles by relief granted by the Government. They receive rations and are waiting for the payment of compensation by the Administration to resume their trading. They have not resumed their former relations with their Arab neighbours yet.

The position holds certain anxieties for the future. Arab and Moslem religious-national feeling is growing, and when in March there was a celebration for the third anniversary of the foundation of the League of Arab States, some concern was felt in the Crater. The procession did in fact pass off without incident; but there are possibilities of trouble after May 15th if the fighting in Palestine becomes still fiercer. No doubt the British Government will maintain henceforth British troops in the colony in order to assist the police at need; and will no longer rely on the unreliable Aden Protectorate Levies. No doubt also it will improve its Intelligence Service and will take steps to strengthen the police force. It is to be hoped that a certain number of young Jews will be recruited for the force, and some of the young men are willing. But we have to realise that British authority is weakened throughout the Middle East.

There was talk after the riots of transplanting this old-established Jewish community to Palestine or to another British colony. It would be a difficult operation, and it would be a loss. Jews have been in Aden for many centuries; the prophet Ezechiel wrote of "the merchants of Aden". And the Jewish community there may be a valuable outpost for Jewish maritime trade when the Merchant Navy of Palestine begins to sail the oceans. On the other hand the Yemenites, who are waiting in the camp, should be transferred to the National Home as soon as immigration is open. They cannot be absorbed in the colony which is already overpopulated, they will not return to the Yemen, and their one hope and faith is to get to the Jewish National Home and to take their part with the 40,000 Yemenite Jews already there.



in productive work.

The community which remains in Aden should be strengthened. Above all it needs more and better education there so that the young Jews may hold up their heads. For that the Jewish bodies in England should extend their help. American Jewry is doing its part, particularly in looking after the refugee Jews in the camp. It is for British Jews to help those British Jewish subjects in the colony to become an integral and a progressive part of the local community and to stand on their own feet.



JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

Paris, le 6 Avril 1948.-  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance.

*Adresse Télégraphique: Tcasso*

Référence à Rappeler  
dans votre réponse

JH/HG

Annexes

The Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
L o n d r e s .-

Messieurs,

Revenant sur notre correspondance échangée à l'occasion de la demande d'intervention en faveur de la communauté d'Aden, nous vous serions très obligés de prier M. Schwarz de vous remettre une copie du rapport Vitelès sur la question, et de nous communiquer d'urgence ce document que nous désirerions porter à la connaissance de notre Conseil avant sa réunion du 19 courant.

En vous remerciant à l'avance, nous vous prions d'agréer, Messieurs, l'assurance de nos sentiments distingués.

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

*Samoy*

52/60



MS/AC

8th April, 1948

Your Ref: JH/HG.

Dear Mr. Oungre,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th instant in which you ask me to arrange for you to have a copy of Mr. Viteles's report on the situation in Aden before the meeting of your Council on the 19th instant.

I am arranging for the only copy of the report which has been in London to be despatched to you tomorrow and I hope that it will reach you early next week. I shall be glad to hear in due course that it has come to hand safely.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Louis Oungre, Esq.,  
Jewish Colonization Association.  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris.



52/62

MS/AC

8th April, 1948

Dear Mr. Janner,

Confirming our conversation on the telephone to-day, I enclose herewith a letter and envelope addressed to the Jewish Colonization Association in Paris and should esteem it a very great favour if you would kindly enclose in this envelope a copy of the report of Mr. Viteles on the situation in Aden, which I recently returned to you, and have it despatched tomorrow, Friday, at the latest as it is required in Paris during the early part of next week for consideration at a meeting of the Council of the Jewish Colonization Association.

With best thanks in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Barnett Janner, Esq., M.P.,  
200, High Holborn,  
London, W.C.1.



52/63

MS/AC

9th April, 1948

Dear Mr. Oungre,

With further reference to my letter of yesterday's date, I now have pleasure in enclosing herewith Mr. Viteles's report on the situation of the Jews in Aden after the recent disturbances in that Colony.

I shall be glad to hear in due course that this has reached you safely.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Louis Oungre, Esq.,  
Jewish Colonization Association,  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris.



MS/AC

9th April, 1948

Dear Brotman,

Re: Aden.

With reference to our conversation on the telephone yesterday, I enclose herewith a copy of the memorandum which Professor Bentwich has submitted, for your information and such action as you may think necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A. Brotman, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
WOBURN HOUSE.



MS/AC

52/65  
9th April, 1948

Dear Mr. Temkin,

I enclose herewith a copy of a report by Professor Norman Bentwich on the situation of the Jews in Aden, which you may like to see.

I understand that Professor Bentwich prepared a report on his visit for the Anglo-Jewish Association and I should esteem it a favour if you could let me have a copy for our files.

With best thanks in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S.D. Temkin, Esq.,  
Anglo-Jewish Association.  
WOBURN HOUSE.



52/66

HELP FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ADEN.

On my return from Aden on the 28th March, I found the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central British Fund on the 10th March, when the help for the Jewish Community was discussed and decisions were taken. It is unfortunate that I was known to be in Aden at the time, and to be dealing with the communal needs in general, and the schools in particular. No information was sent to me about the proposals. If I had that information, my position, both with the British administration and with the Community, would have been straightened.

I had several talks with the Governor, Sir Reginald Champion, and with the Chief Secretary, Mr. Thomas, about the help needed by the Community, and I was in ignorance of what British bodies proposed to do. At my last talk on Thursday the 25th March, the Chief Secretary commented, a little caustically, that while in December, immediately after the riots, cables were sent to the administration from Jewish bodies offering to fly over relief in kind and medical supplies, which were not wanted, to this day no financial help had been received, although the administration asked for it for the stricken Community.

I had word at Aden that the Joint was sending an administrator for the Community, who was to apply loan funds for reconstruction; and I could tell the Chief Secretary of that measure. He had, however, given no indication of what the Anglo-Jewish Community would do. The administration has been, and is, providing rations for the greater part of the 4,500 Jews living in Crater. Although the amount is steadily reduced as more men are able to return to their normal occupations, the relief is still enjoyed by over 3,000 daily. As far as I know, the Government is prepared to continue that relief.

The Joint bears all the cost of feeding the 4,000 Jews in the Camp near Sheikh Othman, a town 10 miles from Aden. The 4,000 include 3,000 Yemenite Jews who are recent arrivals awaiting the opportunity of going to Palestine, about 450 settled Jews from Sheikh Othman who were evacuated during the riots in December, and some 600 Yemenites who were living in Aden at the time of the riots, and were removed shortly afterwards in order to lessen the overcrowding.

The Government makes a grant on account of the 450 permanent residents at the rate of £1 per month per head.

I note that of the £9,400 voted for the Community at the meeting on the 10th, it is proposed to allot £6,000 for relief for two months. I think that that expenditure



not necessary, and that the money would be better used for constructive purposes. The most serious feature to-day is the lack of employment of many of the Jews who will not move out of the Jewish quarter, which has been sealed off with barbed wire and "knife boards." The administration will maintain the relief of those who are unemployed and without means, and there is no gain in taking over the responsibility.

The £1,200 which is allocated to Government medical expenses will relieve the Joint of a burden which they have borne hitherto. They have equipped a small Jewish Clinic in a house in Crater, and have at its head a capable trained Sister from Palestine. The medical service is given by Dr. Cochran, the Director of Medical Services of the Colony. While I was at Aden the Joint sent a message that they have found a Jewish doctor in Palestine of Turkish origin, and his wife, to reside in Crater. The Community have undertaken to provide him with housing and domestic service, and so the medical needs will be adequately met.

The administrator of the Camp, Dr. Olga Weinberg, is a qualified medical doctor, and she will be assisted there by a nurse.

I am doubtful if the £1,200 proposed for clothing is required. No request for help of that kind was made to me by the Community, and a few of the richer Jewish merchants whose stalls were not looted or damaged in the riots have contributed material for clothing, and are in a position to make further gifts in kind. On the other hand, the amount of £500 proposed for educational services, and a similar sum of £500 for educational equipment, are altogether inadequate.

Both the boys' and the girls' School founded by members of the Messa family were burned down in the riots. The boys' School is believed to be a total loss; the girls' School is capable of rebuilding, and the proposal, which is supported by the Government Director of Education, is that the work should be done at once, and that the building could be available for boys and girls. I obtained a rough estimate of the cost of rebuilding from a Jewish contracting firm, (which was recommended by the Government), which would do it at the cost price. Allowing for some necessary improvements in the structure, it was for Rs.65,000, roughly £5,000. There is a good prospect that the Government will bear half that sum as constituting an act of grace.

A few wealthy members of the Community undertook, after some pressure, to pay Rs.20,000. That/



52/58

would leave the sum of about £2,000, which should, I think, be contributed from the Central British Fund. There is a prospect also that the Government will pay some compensation for the educational equipment which was destroyed, but I had suggested that the £500 proposed from the Central British Fund should be raised to £1,000. As to the staff of the Schools, the Joint have found a Headmaster for the boys' School in Palestine, and he should be arriving shortly. The Community have undertaken to provide him with housing and service, and to pay part of his salary. I wrote from Aden to the Anglo-Jewish Association, urging that they should find a qualified Headmistress for the girls' School from one of the former pupils of the Eblina School in Jerusalem, and that the Anglo-Jewish Community should bear the cost of the salary for at least a year. £1,000 should be earmarked for the purpose to cover salary and travel, and installation.

It is necessary that the teacher in the boys' School should be trained, and I would advise that £1,000 should be available for this purpose. The balance of the fund voted by the Central British Fund might be set aside towards the rebuilding of the boys' School, which will have to be undertaken as soon as possible. At present, no estimate has been made of the cost, but it will certainly be much greater than the cost of rebuilding the girls' School.

The fear that an English lawyer might have to be sent to present the claims for compensation is not warranted. While Mr. Diamond might not be able to stay in Aden until all the claims have been submitted, he will have dealt with all those of substance; and the residue can adequately be prepared by the member of the Community who has been assisting him throughout, and has now learned the technique.

The Government hopes to obtain the approval of the Colonial Office to pay compensation at once to the smaller claimants, so as to enable them to resume their trade or other activities. The major claims may not be met for some time, and it is unlikely that they will be met in full. The Government has to consult the Financial Committee of the Legislative Council, of which there are a number of non-official members, namely Arabs. It is, I think, the view of the Government that many of the major claims have been considerably inflated, and that payment will be made, not in virtue of the Hebrew Congregation, but as an act of grace.



52/69

-4-

I have mentioned above that the Joint will be sending a Trade Administrator for the Community, an American citizen who will see to the application of the financial help which the Joint are providing in the form of loans for building houses, etc. It may be desirable that the funds granted by the Central British Fund should be also administered by him. Presumably the Government of Aden will be informed directly of the help the Central British Fund Committee is affording to the Community.

I have formed some personal relations with the Secretariat of the Government and the Director of Education, and I shall be glad, if it is desired, to write to them on behalf of the Central British Fund.

-----000-----

Norman Benturck



*Aden*  
JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

52/70  
Paris, le 12 Avril 1948.-  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance.

Adresse Télégraphique: Tcasso

Référence à Rappeler  
dans votre réponse

JH/AM

Annexes

Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
L o n d r e s .-

Messieurs,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous accuser réception de vos lettres des 8 et 9 courant.

Nous avons trouvé, annexé à cette dernière, le rapport de M. Viteles, relatif à la communauté juive d'Aden, et vous en remercions. Nous le porterons à la connaissance de notre Conseil.

Nous ne manquerons pas de vous aviser opportunément de la résolution que prendra ce dernier.

Veuillez agréer, Messieurs, l'assurance de nos sentiments distingués.

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

*Fanny*



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52/11

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2/72

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## EIRE (IRELAND)

DUBLIN : 67 Middle Abbey Street (Enquiry Office only)

Telephone No. : Dublin 74995

# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

HEAD OFFICE OF THE COMPANY : ELECTRA HOUSE, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON, W.C.2  
 Telegraphic Address : EMPIREGRAM ESTRAND Telephone : TEMple Bar 1222



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REMARKS  
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ISSUING OFFICE

52173

NO.

SENT OUT

BY

OF ACCOUNT OR KINDLY TELEGRAPH JOINT RUSH  
HELP WITHOUT ANY FURTHER DELAYS OTHERWISE  
THE SUFFERING OF THE COMMUNITY SHALL BE  
WORSEN AND THEIR MORAL FURTHER SHAKEN

= BANIN CHAIRMAN JEWISH

EMERGENCY COMMUNITY

COLL 3013 SHUTTERED WORSEN

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL





52/74

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Telex 23040

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**HEAD OFFICE OF THE COMPANY : ELECTRA HOUSE, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON, W.C.2**  
Telegraphic Address : EMPIREGRAM ESTRAND Telephone : TEMple Bar 1222



2175

13th April, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Joe,

Confirming our conversation this afternoon,  
I have received the following cablegram from Banin:-

"REPLYING YOUR 30/3 UPTODATE NO DONATION  
YET RECEIVED TO REHABILITATE OUR SHATTERED  
COMMUNITY FULLSTOP OUR ECONOMICA POSITION  
WORSENING FROM DAY TO DAY FULLSTOP KINDLY  
ARRANGE EITHER BY REMITTING US DIRECT AND  
DEPEND ON OUR FAITHFUL ADMINISTRATION  
RENDERING ACCURATE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT OR  
KINDLY TELEGRAPH JOINT RUSH HELP WITHOUT ANY  
FURTHER DELAYS OTHERWISE THE SUFFERING OF THE  
COMMUNITY SHALL BE WORSEN AND THEIR MORAL FURTHER  
SHAKEN = BANIN CHAIRMAN JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMUNITY"

As arranged I have replied telling him that your  
people have left Palestine and the first will probably  
have arrived before our cable reaches him, and that the  
programme will then move pretty fast.

I mentioned that Bentwich had put in a report on  
his return and from the copy of which I am enclosing  
herewith, you will see that he does not think that relief  
is really necessary. He says that the British Government  
are providing the food for those who have none, but says  
is really required is medical help, rebuilding of the



schools and loans to enable people to start in business again.

I shall be glad if you will ask your administrators in Aden to keep us fully posted as to the progress which is being made.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E),  
France.



52/77

13th April 1948.

NB/AM

Dear Mr. Benin,

I saw Diamond yesterday and he gave me a report of what had happened in the last fortnight. I am very sorry that the visa has not yet been granted for the administrator of the Joint; and I have written to-day to the Governor to urge that it shall be given at once. I have also asked him about the meeting between Jewish and Arab leaders which he was going to arrange.

As to the funds from here, you will have had my letter of last week. £3,550 have been sent to Dr. Feinberg for the Community from here and you will I hope have received that sum. Do go ahead with the contract for rebuilding the school without more delay. You can rely on it that there will be a substantial contribution from the Central British Fund for that purpose and I have asked the Governor too to decide as soon as possible what the Government contribution will be and to let you know. With that help and with the C.B.F. help, and Mr. Messer's promised contribution, of which Diamond told me you ought to go ahead. I shall hope to hear from you that the contract has been made.

About the boys' school, we must wait to see what compensation the Government will give. But again I think you can rely on help from the Fund here.



62178

I have written again to Mrs. Levy of the Evelina School of Jerusalem asking her to find you the headmistress for the girls' school and I rely on it that you will provide her with proper quarters and help.

A happy Yontov to you all,

Yours sincerely,

Norman Bentwich.

P.S. Have the photographs come out?

S. Benin, Esq.,  
Innovation Stores,  
The Crescent,  
Aden.



52/49.

13.4.48

MLT

BENIN ADEN

YOUR CABLE 12th WE REMITTED £3550 30th MARCH DR FEINBERG  
STOP UNDERSTAND FROM JOINT THEIR ADMINISTRATORS ALREADY ON WAY  
FIRST PROBABLY ARRIVED BEFORE YOU RECEIVE THIS STOP PROGRAM  
WILL THEN MOVE FAST STOP OUR GRANT FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES EDUCATION  
INCLUDING SCHOOLS STOP APPLY DR FEINBERG FUNDS FOR THESE  
PURPOSES STOP

STEPHANY LONDON

The Central British Fund for Jewish Relief &  
Rehabilitation, 7oburn House, W.C.1. Euston 3925



MS/SK.

19th April, 1948.

Dear Sir,

I duly received your Cablegram of the 12th instant, reading as follows:-

REPLYING YOURS 30/3 UP TO DATE NO DONATION  
YET RECEIVED TO REHABILITATE OUR SHATTERED  
COMMUNITY FULL STOP OUR ECONOMICAL POSITION  
WORSENING FROM DAY TO DAY FULL STOP KINDLY  
ARRANGE EITHER BY REMITTING US DIRECT AND  
DEPEND ON OUR FAITHFUL ADMINISTRATION  
RENDERING ACCURATE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT OR  
KINDLY TELEGRAPH JOINT RUSH HELP WITHOUT  
ANY FURTHER DELAYS OTHERWISE THE SUFFERING  
OF THE COMMUNITY SHALL WORSEN AND THEIR  
MORAL FURTHER SHAKEN

BANIN CHAIRMAN  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.

I immediately got into touch with the American Joint Distribution Committee in Palestine, and advised them of the contents of your Cable. Dr. Joseph Schwartz, the Europe Director of the Joint, informed me that there had been some delay in obtaining the necessary visas to enable their administrators to go from Palestine to Aden, but on that day the visas had come through for one of them, and he would probably be arriving in the course of a few days. The others hoped to follow very shortly after.

/Cont..



52/8'

-2-

As I mentioned to you in my letter of the 30th ultimo, the Central British Fund has voted a sum of £9,400 towards the programme of relief and assistance which is being undertaken by the American Joint Distribution Committee. On the same day, we sent a remittance of £3,550 to the National Bank of India Ltd. Aden, for the credit of the account of Mrs. Olga Feinberg, who, we understand, is acting for the Joint, and I would suggest that you communicate with her in this connection.

In order to keep you posted, I sent you the following cable on the 13th instant:-

YOUR CABLE 12th WE REMITTED £3550 30th MARCH  
DR FEINBERG STOP UNDERSTAND FROM JOINT THEIR  
ADMINISTRATORS ALREADY ON WAY FIRST PROBABLY  
ARRIVED BEFORE YOU RECEIVE THIS STOP PROGRAM  
WILL THEN MOVE FAST STOP OUR GRANT FOR MEDICAL  
SUPPLIES EDUCATION INCLUDING SCHOOLS STOP  
APPLY DR FEINBERG FUNDS FOR THESE PURPOSES STOP

STEPHANY LONDON

which I hereby confirm.

I shall be glad if you will kindly keep me posted as to the position in Aden.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S. Benin, Esq.,  
Innovation Stores,  
The Crescent,  
ADEN.

---



21/80

CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

A D E N

With reference to the Report from Prof. Norman Bentwich which has been circulated with these documents, it should be pointed out that it was understood that Mr. Bentwich would be leaving Aden before news of our grants could have reached him.

According to Mr. Bentwich's Report, there is no need for relief assistance for the Jews in Aden as he states that the Government is providing all that is necessary. He states, further, that a grant for clothing is not required as the stores of the more wealthy Jews in the Colony were not looted and they are willing to help with clothing for Jews who suffered. Mr. Bentwich considered that the urgent necessities were the provision of medical supplies, repair of the schools and loans to enable the people to restart their businesses.

On the other hand, according to Mr. A.S. Diamond, who has now returned to this country, there is still need of a grant for relief.

On the 27.3.1948 the Joint asked us to make a payment of £3,550 to the National Bank of India, Aden, to be placed to the credit of the account of their representative, Dr. Olga Feinberg; this was done. On the 12.4.1948 the Jewish Emergency Committee of Aden cabled that no money whatever had been received from the Joint and that the situation was desperate and help must be provided at once. They asked us either to remit direct to them and they would account to us, or to ask the Joint to rush supplies and cash forward.

The Joint was immediately contacted and Dr. Schwartz advised us that there had been some delay in obtaining visas for their people to come from Palestine to Aden, but that the visa for the Director had been received and that he had already left.

He would probably be in Aden by the time our Cablegram advising them of the position reached the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden. The permits for the other people were expected in the course of a few days. The Jewish Emergency Committee have been advised accordingly.

-----  
20. 4. 1948



50/83  
COPY.

A D E N, A R A B I A.

21st April 1948.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews,  
Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place,  
L O N D O N.

FOR ATTENTION OF MR. JANNER.

Dear Sirs,

We understand that the Government propose to contribute Rs.25,000/- or 50% on an ad hoc ex gratia basis of the cost of essential repairs to the Girls School Building, at the same time making it clear that this does not commit Government to making any contribution later towards the cost of the reconstructions of the Boys School. Government considers that as public "Buildings" will not rank for "compensation" the School Authorities will not be eligible for compensation awards, (if such compensation is decided upon.) The Jewish Community cannot see its way to accept this contribution as it is at present conditioned as it will prejudice their rights in the restoration of the Jewish Boys School which will require about Rs.3,00000/- to reconstruct, at the same time they do not wish to forfeit Rs.25,000/- which the Government offers under the Grant-in-Aid.

Under the circumstances we shall be glad to receive your advice as to what action shall we take in the matter.

We enclose "Memoranda for the Standing Finance Committee VIII" Education."

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours very sincerely  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,

Sgd. E. M. BANIM.

CHAIRMAN.



COPY.

62/84

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STANDING FINANCE  
COMMITTEE.

VIII - EDUCATION.

33A - Special Grant-in-Aid (Building)

Additional Provision Required - Rs.25,000.  
-----

The Chairman, Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden has represented to Government that their two schools for boys and girls were burnt during the December 1947 riots, and that they are anxious to restore educational facilities. At present classes are conducted in private houses and this arrangement is very unsatisfactory. They consider that the most practical step would be to repair the Girls' School building with the object of enabling it to serve for the time being for both boys and girls, and the estimated cost is about Rs.50,000/-. The Jewish community have asked for Government assistance.

2. Government share the view of the Jewish community regarding the importance of restoring educational facilities as soon as possible. As public "buildings" will not rank for "compensation" the school authorities will not be eligible for compensation awards (if such compensation is decided upon). It is however considered that Government should make a contribution towards the cost of reconstruction. In the normal way the maximum contribution which Government could make under the grant in aid code would be 33-1/3% of the cost of approved expenditure, but in the special circumstances of this case, Government considers that the contribution should be raised to 50% on an ad hoc ex gratis basis of the cost of essential repairs, at the same time making it clear that this does not commit Government to making any contribution later towards the cost of the reconstruction of the boys school.

3. The concurrence of the Honourable Members is sought for the provision of Rs.25,000/- under the above new Sub Head.

-----  
THE SECRETARIAT.  
ADEN, 25th March 1948.



STEPHENSON HARWOOD & TATHAM,

SOLICITORS.

ALBERT H. THROSSSELL.  
JOHN C. WITT.  
ANTHONY B. LOUSADA.  
CHARLES L. FAWCETT.  
WILLIAM RITCHIE.  
DONALD J. METHVEN.  
DONALD H. ROBINSON.

62/85  
TELEPHONE: LONDON WALL 5114 (7 LINES)  
TELEGRAMS & CABLES: LIMATOR, LONDON.

16 OLD BROAD STREET  
LONDON E.C.2

OUR REFERENCE 4  
Encl.

22nd April 1948.

Dear Sir,

At the request of Mr. Oungre we return  
various documents concerning Aden which we understand  
that you sent to him.

Yours faithfully,



M. Stephany Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.



52/86  
AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
87-83  
INVALIDES } 87-55  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

April 23, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

I wish to thank you for your letter of April 13th with which you sent us a copy of Norman Bentwich's memorandum on the situation in Aden. We have sent on to Mr. Harry Viteles in Palestine a copy of this memorandum for his comment.

I understand from Paul Philippson who was in Paris the other day that JCA has taken favorable action on the application for a contribution to the loan fund in Aden which was made through the Central British Fund. I wonder whether you can confirm this to me and let me know the exact amount.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

*Joseph J. Schwartz*

Joseph J. Schwartz  
Chairman

JJS:leg



Dr. Abuisak  
S. Benin house  
Section I Street I  
Crater Aden.

Aden : 25/ April /948

6287

Cable : Abuisak Jewish  
Emergency Committee  
Crater Aden.

Ref: 2  
Your ref: ...

To The A.J.J.D.C.  
199 Piccadilly  
London W I.

Dear Sir,

I AM a few days in Aden in the name of the  
A.J.J.D.C. M.E.section to provide medical care and to act as a  
temporary administrator . Ms Menahem Berger is also in Aden as  
headmaster to supervise the educational programme .

Follows the copie of the introduction letter:

" A.A.J.D.C. office M.E.and Balkans

Ref. T23/II26

Jewish Emergency Commission Aden.

Gentlemen:

This is to introduce Dr. Abuisak whom the AJDC has  
appointed for one year to administer the medical program for all the  
Jews residing in Aden ..... Pending the arrival of the american  
Administrator ,Dr. Abuisak also has kindly agreed to assist with  
the relief and other activities . The nurse .....

(2) Dr. Abuisak like all other AJDC staff is directly  
responsible to the AJDC. However he like .....

(3) .....

Dr. Abuisak will submit his reports directly to the  
AJDC.

With best wishes ,  
Yours sincerely  
Signed  
Harry Viteles.

second letter

" A.J.J.D.C. Off. M.E. and Balkans

Ref. T 23/ II28

To the Jewish Emergency Committee Aden  
Gentlemen.

.....  
(2) Pending the arrival of the American Administrator ,we are  
asking Dr. Abuisak also to act as administrator .

(3) If you have not already deposited your participation



Dr. Abuisak  
Section A Street I  
Crater Aden.

"2"

52/88

of LP 500 towards the cost of the medical program and LP 200 towards the cost of the educational program ,we will deduct the 700 LP from the 14000 which the american Joint D.C. has approved for reconstruction loans( Exclusive salaries travelling.....) or from the LP 9400 which the Central british Fund has approved and will transmit on our instructions for supplementary relief ,the hospital and education . The AJDC appropriation of the 14,000 is exclusive of the cost of the medical supplies ,soap ..... which theAJDC has sent or may send in future We also are very glad to hear from the jews from Aden living in TelAviv that the jews in Aden not only are contributing their participation of at least one quarter of the total cost of supplementary food (in accordance whith our understanding ) but also have collected a considerable amount for reconstruction loans. ....

(4) ..... (5)..... With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Signed

Harry Viteles

Dear Sir,

From the instructions received from Mr. Viteles it appear that the AJDC promised a allocation of supplementary relief of food ,hospital and education up to 9400 £ ,and 14000 £ for reconstruction loans . The Central British Fund take responsability to provide the 9400 £ fund on instructions of Mr. Viteles,TelAviv.

I came to Aden and meanwhile all communications with the Holy Land where cut completely.

I recieved only a tranfer from TelAviv of 20,000 rroupies ( about 1500 £ ) Mr Viteles advised me to employ the loan for medical purposes.

The American adminstrator has a few days ago recieved his visa for Aden but there is in the present situation very doubtful he will find accomodation to fly to Aden. *from Palestine*

As a temporary administrator I must pay to the AJDC staff (Educator and Physician, ) a per diem allowance about 50-60 £ monthly; salaries of the physician(myself) 90 £ monthly , the educator will recieve his salarie in TelAviv :

Supplementary relief Contrary to the text of the letter No 2 and contrary to the balance sent to TelAviv in the 22/Feb/48 ~~206~~ supplementary food was provided to the needed ; of course there was no contribution participating in one quarter of a relief whou was not provided.

From the 4800 Jews living in Aden (the camp is exclusive of all this report ) about one half is under nourished and from this the half is living only whith the governement allowance of 900 calories a day and this allowance will be cut more in the next few days .



Dr. Abuisak  
Section A Street I  
Crater Aden ?

" 3"

there is a urgent necessity to provide immediatly a supplementary food to the needy , who are waiting for months for help .

Reconstruction loans . It is inadvisable for the present to make any loan for reconstruction , if the situation is relached I will give you further informations.

I am in the impossibility to contact Palestine .

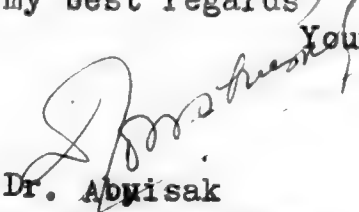
I have only 1500 £ in cash and no other fund.

If you cable to Dr Magnes Jerusalem is informed of my arrival in aden .

Please transmit immediatly your instructions possibly cable .

With my best regards,

Yours Sincerely

  
Dr. Abuisak  
Section A Street I  
S. Benin house  
Crater ADEN.

CC CENTAL BRITISH FUND.



JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

Paris, April 26th, 1948.-  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance.

12/90

*Adresse Télégraphique: Tcasso*

Référence à Rappeler  
dans votre réponse

GA/HG

Annexes

The Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
L o n d o n .-

Gentlemen,

We have the pleasure to inform you that our Council, in their meeting of April 19th, has decided to make, through the Central British Fund, further grants for the rehabilitation of the Jewish population in Aden:

£ 1.000 for relief purposes;

£ 1.000 for the capital cost of rebuilding the Girls' School.

We give the necessary instructions that the above mentioned amounts be paid to you.

Yours truly,

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

*Handwritten signature*



MS/AC

26th April, 1948.

Messrs. Stephenson Harwood & Tatham,  
16, Old Broad Street,  
E.C.2.

Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of your communication of the  
22nd instant, enclosing documents concerning Aden, for  
which please accept my best thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

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VIA IMPERIAL

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.

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BNT

92

CW

INSA 5077/CM1382 ADFN 39 25 1542

= NLT = MIGRATE LONDON =

ALL CABLES PALESTINE INTERRUPTED STOP YOU  
TAKE RESPONSABILITY TO SUPPLY  
SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD ADFN 6000 L STOP  
SITUATION SERIOUS SEND IMMEDIATELY LOAN  
TO DOCTOR ABUISAK JOINT ADMINISTRATOR

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL





52/93

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## LONDON

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| 24 Royal Exchange, E.C.3. ..                                     | MANSion House 7974 |
| The Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields Market, E.1. ..                 | BIShopsgate 4993   |
| Candlewick House, 116/126 Cannon Street, E.C.4. ..               | MANSion House 9431 |
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London

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176

REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF  
THE JEWS OF ADEN.

I was in Aden for seven weeks as Counsel for the 650 or so claimants who were claiming compensation for damage suffered in the Riots. That number probably represents about half the heads of families, and in the course of acting for them I obtained a thorough knowledge of the financial position, methods of business and the way of life of the Jews of Aden in a way one could not have done in less than a good many years. *usually*

The colony of Aden consists of three main places, Steamer Point, where the European community and the Government offices are mainly situated and where are also some of the largest Jewish shops; Crater, where there is a Jewish quarter and the Bazaar area, and Sheikh Othman, which is something of the nature of a large Arab village in the desert. The Jewish population of Aden consists firstly of the Adenites whose families have been resident there for at least 1,000 years, and some recent Yemenite immigrants. In Crater and Steamer Point the Jews are almost entirely shopkeepers and their employees. In Sheikh Othman the Adenites as well as the Yemenites were mainly artisans, that is to say Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, Weavers, Carvers and so forth. Near Sheikh Othman there is also a camp called Hashid Camp which started during the war as a transit camp for Yemenites on their way to Palestine. As a result of the stoppage of immigration into Palestine the number of inmates of the camp has largely increased, and as a result of the Riots practically the whole Jewish population of Sheikh Othman was moved to Hashid. The present position is that in Crater are some 5,000 Jewish almost entirely Adenites, and in Hashid Camp is a separate community of just over 4,000 almost entirely consisting of Yemenite immigrants, more or less penniless, and possessing nothing but scanty clothing. Crater is administered very badly as one community, the leader of which is Mr. Melnik. *anim*, but it possesses nobody capable of leadership, and the community has not learned to help itself or one another. Hashid Camp is administered by that remarkable woman, Dr. Olga Fineberg, as quite a separate community.

CRATER.

Of the people in Crater very few escaped damage in the Riots, and a large number lost everything. Apart from four or five of the wealthier individuals no one had any money in the bank or in a stock or share in a company, and whatever they possessed was in the form of stock in their shops, household goods, and buildings if they owned them, and it was possible, therefore, for a man wealthy by local standards to find himself possessed of nothing but a nightshirt if his house and shop were burned down. The

overcrowding ....



overcrowding in the remaining buildings is appalling. I am thinking, for example, of a flat of six rooms occupied by two brothers who are the managers of two of the largest Jewish concerns in Haifa. That floor is occupied by 17 people. Immediately after the Riots 5,000 persons were issued free rations by the Government and the number for the last two months has been stationary at 3,500. The rations are not really adequate, but apart from food it is to be noted that the position as a whole is getting very difficult. Those who are living on their wages of rupee notes are exhausting them. Those who have lost the stocks of their shops have nothing to buy any stocks with, and one by one they are tempted by Arab neighbours to part with the walls of their houses or the leases of their empty shops for a song. In addition, trade locally is bad. The riots have given a great sense of insecurity to all the local community, no one imports goods if he can avoid it. A new feature is an Arab boycott of the Jewish shop, which is a very material factor in the situation. The result is that in the Jewish quarter you will every day see a large part of the population lounging in the streets for want of something to do. Those whose businesses have been looted have no occupation and the same applies to their employees and to a very large number of other Jews who have hitherto earned their living in various ways by supplying the needs of the Jewish community.

The moral is of course that whatever money is sent to the Jews of Haifa from abroad is needed now and not later. I estimate the material damage to the Jews of Crater and Sheikh Othman at about £1,000,000 sterling. I should be reasonably satisfied if the compensation amounts to half a million, and I do not think it is likely to be less than a quarter million, but it is obviously bound to take at least three months from now until anything is received except small advances to small claimants who could be started in trade thereby.

#### HAIFA CAMP.

This place is now denuded of Jews, who are all in Hashid Camp.

#### HASHID CAMP.

I need only say of the occupants of the Hashid Camp that before the riots they had very little in the way of possessions, and the present number swelled by the riots has substantially nothing. None of them have any occupation whatsoever. They dare not go to Sheikh Othman in search of work. They would have difficulty in the present circumstances of the Jewish community in obtaining work in Crater or Steamer Point, and it is a journey from Hashid of some 10 miles to either place, the cost of which they can ill afford, especially as if they leave Hashid their free rations are gone.

When .....



When I left Aden about the 8th April the community was very much disturbed with the slowness with which their friends and wellwishers in England and America were acting. They knew that sums had been generously voted by the Central British Fund and the Joint and this increased their sense of irritation at the delay. The following figures were given to me by one of the few reliable persons in the place when I left. The receipts from abroad up to date in Crater were as follows:

£1,150 from Asmara.  
£200 from the Aden Jewish community in Palestine.  
£100 from the Vaad Hazala, Palestine.

£2,350.

In addition the following sums had been received and by consent shared equally, with Hashid:

£500 from the Vaad Leumi.  
£1,000 from the Central British Fund.  
£250 from South Africa.  
£250 from boys in Jerusalem.

Totalling £1,775 half of which, as I say, went to Hashid.

Not a penny in cash had been received from the Joint. Mr. Vitellis visited Aden in January and promised to help. The Joint decided not without reason that they must send their administrator to supervise the distribution on the spot, and it was understood when I left that he had still not obtained a visa, though attempts were made by the Jews of Aden to help in that direction. I have been told by Mr. Stephany since I returned that he has now heard from Mr. Schwartz that the visa has been granted and the administrator is on his way from Palestine, and I am glad to hear it. I also understand that the Central British Fund has about the 27th March sent £5,500 intended for relief in Aden generally, to Mr. Olga Finckler at Hashid Camp. Hashid Camp, is of course, administered on funds received from the Joint. Crater, apart from what I have said, receives nothing. The relations between Hashid Camp and Crater are such that neither body trusts the other, the former community consists substantially of penniless Yemenite nomads, the latter community consists of Yemenite shopkeepers. I do not think that any of this £5,500 will find its way out of Hashid and into Crater unless strenuous steps are taken in that direction, certainly so far as I know nothing had been heard of it in Crater when I left.

In the above remarks I have been endeavouring to make clear not so much that the sum voted to Aden should be increased, that is a matter for others to decide, but that every step should be taken to ensure that the money arrives now and not later when I hope it will not be so much needed. I see in a note of Mr.

Stephany' .....



Stephany's that it is Mr. Bentwich's view that there is no need for relief assistance for the Jews in Luen. I wholly disagree. Mr. Bentwich did not live with the community. His work there was not concerned with the economic position of the Jews of Luen, and he would be the first to admit that. He points out the need for education in Luen, and no one for a moment would disagree. The two Jewish elementary schools that existed before the Riots and have been more or less destroyed were most unsatisfactory. None of the Jewish teachers were fit for their posts because of the low standard of education in the community. It is doubtful whether there are in the whole of Luen more than six natives of any community who have passed matriculation. Certainly not amongst the Jews. In the long run the education and improvement of the Jewish community, and the raising of the standard of education is the greatest need for the community, but at present their need is for work. Mr. Bentwich induced some of these people to subscribe some 20,000 rupees to the rebuilding of the girls' school. After he left, to my knowledge, no more than 2,000 was raised, and the rest alleged their inability to carry out their promises. I agree that qualified teachers are a vital need, and I am hoping that the I.C.C. or the Anglo-Jewish Association may be willing to take an active interest in putting some satisfactory Jewish schools into existence, but it is not much use talking of education to the Jews of Luen in their present state of need.



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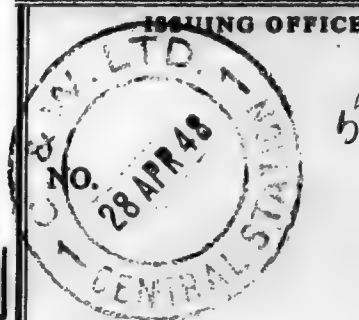
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NL 72420

BY

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DNSA139 CM244 ADEN 86/82 27 1125

=NLT= MIGRATE LONDON =

RECEIVED 3550 POUNDS ONACCOUNT APRIL  
 BUDGET STOP FORTYTWO POUNDS STILL TO BE  
 SENT BY YOU FOR COMPLETION BUDGET STOP  
 FOR YOUR INFORMATION KINDLY AVOID MIXINGUP  
 ADEN COMMUNITY FUNDS WITH HASHEDCAMP FUNDS  
 AS SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIONS ESTABLISHED  
 STOP HASHEDCAMP RESPONSABILITY FINANCIALLY  
 TOO ENTRUSTED TO ME HAVE NOTHING TO DO :





52/101

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 BY VITELES WHEN VISITING HERE STOP HOPE  
 THIS CABLE CLEAR TO YOU STOP CONTACT DR  
 MAGNES STOP DR FEINBERG

3550

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## EIRE (IRELAND)

DUBLIN: 67 Middle Abbey Street (Enquiry Office only)

Telephone No.: Dublin 74995

# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

**HEAD OFFICE OF THE COMPANY: ELECTRA HOUSE, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON, W.C.2**

Telegraphic Address: EMPIREGRAM ESTRAND

Telephone: TEMple Bar 1222



## CABLE &amp; WIRELESS LTD

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NO.

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VIA IMPERIAL

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.



SENT OUT

BY

CW

DNSA140 CM245 ADEN 53 27 1127

=NLT= MIGRATE LONDON =

ADEN COMMUNITY DIFFERENT FROM HASHIT CAMP  
 STOP HASHIT CAMP SUPERVISION DOCTOR  
 FEINBERG STOP ADEN COMMUNITY SUPERVISION  
 DOCTOR ABUISAK STOP FUNDS BE SENT  
 SEPARATELY STOP YOU TAKE RESPONSABILITY  
 PROVIDE RELIEF UP 9400 L TO ADEN COMMUNITY  
 STOP CONTACT MAGNES JERUSALEM STOP SEND —

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark your reply V I O A M R M S



52/105



# TELEGRAMS ACCEPTED FOR ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

(except for the following European Countries : Belgium, Luxemburg, Danzig, Denmark, Esthonia, ~~Finland~~, Germany, Holland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden)

## AND FOR SHIPS AT SEA, AT THE COMPANY'S BRANCH

### LONDON

CENTRAL TELEGRAPH STATION: (Always Open)

ELECTRA HOUSE, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, W.C.2

Telegraphic Address: 'Signally, Phone, London'

Telephone Numbers: TEMple Bar 1222 (for enquiries)  
8494 (for the despatch of telegrams only)

Telex Number: TEMple Bar 2441

#### BRANCH OFFICES:

|   |               |      |
|---|---------------|------|
| Tower Chambers, Moorgate, E.C.2                             | CLerkenwell   | 2243 |
| The Baltic Exchange, Bury Street, E.C.3                     | AVenue        | 3514 |
| 18 Old Broad Street, E.C.2                                  | LONdon Wall   | 4270 |
| 22 Leadenhall Street, E.C.3                                 | MANsion House | 6605 |
| Cereal House, 58 Mark Lane, E.C.3                           | ROYal         | 7837 |
| 24 Royal Exchange, E.C.3                                    | MANsion House | 7974 |
| The Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields Market, E.1                | BIShopsate    | 4993 |
| Candlewick House, 116/126 Cannon Street, E.C.4              | MANsion House | 9431 |
| Capel Court, Throgmorton Street, E.C.2                      | LONdon Wall   | 4811 |
| 21 West Smithfield, E.C.1                                   | CITY          | 6541 |
| 3 Borough High Street, S.E.1                                | HOP           | 0818 |
| 41 & 42 Parliament Street, S.W.1                            | WHItchall     | 2441 |
| Thos. Cook & Son Ltd., Main Office, 43 Berkeley Street, W.1 | MAYfair       | 4587 |
| Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, W.1                          | AMBassador    | 1234 |
| 73 Regent Street, W.1                                       | REGent        | 6244 |
| Golden Cross House, Charing Cross, Strand, W.C.2            | WHItchall     | 3696 |
| Thames House, Millbank, S.W.1                               | VICToria      | 7871 |
| The Adelphi, John Adam Street, Strand, W.C.2                | TEMple Bar    | 1222 |
| Grosvenor House, Enquiry Bureau, Park Lane, W.1             | GROsvenor     | 6363 |
| And the District Messenger Company's Offices                |               |      |

### PROVINCES

Telephone Nos.

|   |            |       |
|---|------------|-------|
| Birmingham 3: Lombard House, 142 Great Charles Street | Central    | 8321  |
| Bradford: 6/10 Broadway                               | Bradford   | 6007  |
| Dundee: 46 and 50 Bell Street                         | Dundee     | 2108  |
| Edinburgh 2: 99 George Street                         | Edinburgh  | 25068 |
| Glasgow C.2: 67 St. Vincent Street                    | City       | 7761  |
| Hull: 4 Silver Street                                 | Central    | 35811 |
| Leeds 1: 15 Infirmary Street                          | Leeds      | 32464 |
| Liverpool 2: 4 Castle Street                          | Central    | 5951  |
| Manchester 2: 94 Mosley Street                        | Central    | 3223  |
| Newcastle: 31 Mosley Street                           | Newcastle  | 22321 |
| Porthcurno, Penzance (Cornwall)                       | St. Buryan | 206   |
| Sheffield 3: 50 The Wicker                            | Sheffield  | 20283 |

And at the Company's Wireless Stations at Brentwood, Dorchester, Ongar and Somerton.

#### NORTHERN IRELAND

Imperial House, 9 Donegall Square East, Belfast ..... Belfast 27438

### TELEX NUMBERS IN THE PROVINCES

BIRMINGHAM:  
Central Telex 7370

LIVERPOOL:  
Central Telex 8112

MANCHESTER:  
Central Telex 5800

NEWCASTLE:  
Telex 23033

SHEFFIELD:  
Telex 23040

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### EIRE (IRELAND)

DUBLIN: 67 Middle Abbey Street (Enquiry Office only)

Telephone No.: Dublin 74995

## CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

HEAD OFFICE OF THE COMPANY: ELECTRA HOUSE, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON, W.C.2

Telegraphic Address: EMPIREGRAM ESTRAND

Telephone: TEMple Bar 1222



## CABLE &amp; WIRELESS LTD

ISSUING OFFICE

52/1106

NO.

RECEIVED PARTICULARS

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The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.

SENT OUT

BY

AT ONCE FUND JOINT ADMINISTRATOR DOCTOR  
ABUISAK CRATER ADEN =

9400

L

✠

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL.





52107

**TELEGRAMS ACCEPTED FOR ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD**  
(except for the following European Countries: Belgium, Luxemburg, Danzig, Denmark, Esthonia, Finland, Germany, Holland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden)  
**AND FOR SHIPS AT SEA, AT THE COMPANY'S BRANCHES**

## LONDON

**CENTRAL TELEGRAPH STATION: (Always Open)**

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| 22 Leadenhall Street, E.C.3                                 | MANSion House 6605 |
| Cereal House, 58 Mark Lane, E.C.3                           | ROYal 7837         |
| 24 Royal Exchange, E.C.3                                    | MANSion House 7974 |
| The Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields Market, E.1                | BISHopsgate 4993   |
| Candlewick House, 116/126 Cannon Street, E.C.4              | MANSion House 9431 |
| Capel Court, Throgmorton Street, E.C.2                      | LONDON Wall 4811   |
| 21 West Smithfield, E.C.1                                   | CITY 6541          |
| 3 Borough High Street, S.E.1                                | HOP 0818           |
| 41 & 42 Parliament Street, S.W.1                            | WHITehall 2441     |
| Thos. Cook & Son Ltd., Main Office, 43 Berkeley Street, W.1 | MAYfair 4587       |
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| 73 Regent Street, W.1                                       | REGent 6244        |
| Golden Cross House, Charing Cross, Strand, W.C.2            | WHITehall 3696     |
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| The Adelphi, John Adam Street, Strand, W.C.2                | TEMple Bar 1222    |
| Grosvenor House, Enquiry Bureau, Park Lane, W.1             | GROsvenor 6363     |
| And the District Messenger Company's Offices                |                    |

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Telephone Nos.

|   |            |       |
|---|------------|-------|
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| Bradford: 6/10 Broadway                               | Bradford   | 6007  |
| Dundee: 46 and 50 Bell Street                         | Dundee     | 2108  |
| Edinburgh 2: 99 George Street                         | Edinburgh  | 25068 |
| Glasgow C.2: 67 St. Vincent Street                    | City       | 7761  |
| Hull: 4 Silver Street                                 | Central    | 35811 |
| Leeds 1: 15 Infirmary Street                          | Leeds      | 32464 |
| Liverpool 2: 4 Castle Street                          | Central    | 5951  |
| Manchester 2: 94 Mosley Street                        | Central    | 3223  |
| Newcastle: 31 Mosley Street                           | Newcastle  | 22321 |
| Porthcurno, Penzance (Cornwall)                       | St. Buryan | 206   |
| Sheffield 3: 50 The Wicker                            | Sheffield  | 20283 |

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### NORTHERN IRELAND

|   |         |       |
|---|---------|-------|
| Imperial House, 9 Donegall Square East, Belfast | Belfast | 27438 |
|---|---------|-------|

### TELEX NUMBERS IN THE PROVINCES

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**LIVERPOOL:**  
Central Telex 8112

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Central Telex 5800

**NEWCASTLE:**  
Telex 23033

**SHEFFIELD:**  
Telex 23040

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DUBLIN: 67 Middle Abbey Street (Enquiry Office only)

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# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

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Telegraphic Address: EMPIREGRAM ESTRAND

Telephone: TEMple Bar 1222



# CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED

6/-230

12/108

## SERVICE TELEGRAM.

|              |                        |            |                         |                     |
|--------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Station from | Clerk's Name           | Station to | Clerk's Name            | Date and Time Stamp |
|              | Time and Date Received |            | Time and Date Forwarded |                     |

RST 0313

No. }  
Prefix }  
Code }  
Words } **ST** XNSA51/CM300 RST AN LN 13

DNSA607/25 MIGRATE NAME ADDRESS SENDER

ABUISAK SEC A S BANIN HOUSE CRATER

~~name - address~~ ~~sender~~

~~name - address~~ DNSA 607/25/1222



TELEPHONES Direction or Enquiries: Temple Bar 1222  
Despatch of Telegrams: Temple Bar 8494

Telex: Temple Bar Telex 244i

TELEGRAMS Inland: Signally Tube London  
Abroad: Signally London

# CABLE AND WIRELESS LTD

CENTRAL TELEGRAPH STATION

ELECTRA HOUSE VICTORIA EMBANKMENT WC2  
LONDON

Please address Reply to the Company quoting Reference and Date

NLT2426.

To NLT MIGRATE LONDON

23 APL. 29TH. 1948.

## NOTICE OF CORRECTION

With reference to the telegram. of which the particulars are as follows :—

DNSA139 CM244 ADEN 86/82 27 1125

beginning RECEIVED 3550 POUNDS ETC

we should be glad if you would kindly take note of the following correction which

we have received . PLEASE READ NUMBER OF WORDS 84/80.

T  
L  
C

Manager, London Branches.



MS/AK

29th April, 1948.

Dear Mr. Cungre,

I understand that at the meeting of the Council of the Jewish Colonization Association, held on Monday last, a grant of £2,000 was made to the Central British Fund for use in Aden.

I should be very much obliged if you will let me know as soon as possible whether your Council desire this to be used for any particular part of the work which we are doing for the Aden Jews and, if so, which.

With best thanks in anticipation of your kind reply,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

L. Cungre, Esq.,  
Jewish Colonization Association,  
29, Rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris (8e),  
France.



MS/AK

29th April, 1948.

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

I have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant regarding the situation in Aden and, in accordance with our conversation on the telephone yesterday, I enclose herewith, for your information, a copy of the Report which Mr. A.S. Diamond gave to us on his view of the position there. You will see that this differs very materially from Professor Bentwich's views and the Council, at its meeting on Tuesday last, was in a good deal of doubt as to the best course to adopt.

As I mentioned on the telephone, we have received repeated requests from Aden to remit money for the relief of the Jews in the city as distinct from those at the Hassid Camp.

We received a cable, dispatched on the 25th, which read as follows:-

ALL CABLES PALESTINE INTERRUPTED STOP YOU TAKE  
RESPONSIBILITY TO SUPPLY SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD ADEN  
86000 STOP SITUATION SERIOUS SEND IMMEDIATELY  
LOAN TO DOCTOR ABUISAK JOIN ADMINISTRATOR SECTION  
AT CRATER ADEN STOP CONTACT IF POSSIBLE VITELLES  
TEL AVIV.

This cable was not signed but we have ascertained since that it was sent by Dr. Abuisak. On the 26th we telephoned to Paris to ask if you had any knowledge of Dr. Abuisak but were informed that you had not. On the 27th we received a further cable, dispatched on the 27th, reading:-

ADEN COMMUNITY DIFFERENT FROM HASSED CAMP STOP  
HASSED CAMP SUPERVISION DOCTOR FEINBERG STOP  
ADEN COMMUNITY SUPERVISION DOCTOR ABUISAK STOP  
FUNDS BE SENT SEPARATELY STOP YOU TAKE  
RESPONSIBILITY PROVIDE RELIEF UP £9,400 TO  
ADEN COMMUNITY STOP CONTACT MAGNES JERUSALEM STOP



SEND AT ONCE FUND JOINT ADMINISTRATOR DOCTOR ABUISAK  
CRATER ADEN.

At the same time we received a cable from Dr. Feinberg. From these two cables it seems evident that none of the £3,550, which we sent at your request on the 27th March to the National Bank of India, Aden, in the credit of Dr. Olga Feinberg, is being used for any of the purposes for which the Council made its grant of £9,400 and the members were very perturbed that, according to the information received, none of the money was being used for either the relief, i.e. provision of medical supplies, food, etc., of the Jews in Aden as distinct from the Hassid Camp nor for the health or educational purposes for which our grant was made. Professor Bentwich stressed that the urgent need, so far as education was concerned, was for the repair of the girls' school and the provision of teachers and, on the side of relief, for grants to enable the Jews in Aden to recommence their businesses.

I was asked by the Council to get into immediate communication with you with a view to ascertaining what immediate steps were being taken to alleviate the position of the Jews in Aden and, if necessary, to alter the purpose for which the £9,400 was allotted. In view of the fact that, when we discussed this matter it was decided that the Joint should look after the people in the Hassid Camp and that our vote should be towards the people in the Aden Colony, I feel that you would like this arrangement to stay, in which case it would be necessary for you to adjust the payment which you asked us to make to Dr. Feinberg by a payment which can be used for the Jews in Aden.

In our conversation on the telephone yesterday, I understand that Dr. Repansky, who was your administrator, had already left for Aden and you promised to send a cable to find out what was the actual position there and to let me know as soon as possible. I look forward to hearing from you in this connection by telephone within the course of the next day or two but in the meantime we are not, of course, making any remittances to Aden. We are most anxious to do what we can to help in the situation and I await your further news with the deepest interest.

I understand that the Council of the I.C.A. had its meeting last week to make a grant of £2,000 for assistance in Aden but I am not sure for what particular purpose this was intended, whether for rehabilitation or reconstruction by loans or otherwise. I have not heard officially from the I.C.A., but as soon as I do I will let you know.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz,  
American Joint  
Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E), France.

Secretary.



52/113.  
AIR MAIL

CK/LP

3rd May, 1948.

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

I enclose herewith, for your information, copy of a letter received today from Dr. Abuisak, and should be glad to hear from you in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. Joseph Schwartz,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue St. Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES OF THE BRITISH JEWS

*generally known as*

The Board of Deputies of British Jews

52/114

President:

PROFESSOR S. BRODETSKY.

Vice-Presidents:

DR. ISRAEL FELDMAN.  
BARNETT JANNER, M.P.

Treasurer:

B. B. LIEBERMAN.

Solicitor:

CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL.

Secretary:

A. G. BROTMAN.

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1

3rd May, 1948.

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.

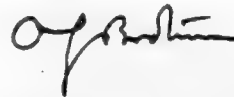
Dear Stephany,

I enclose a copy of a letter which came to me from Mr. Osrin of the South African Jewish Appeal, under date 31st March.

I have received a reminder from him dated 26th April and I have replied that the Board will not call upon South Africa for any contribution as, in fact, a Silk was not sent to Aden.

I have, however, told Mr. Osrin of the money allocated by the C.B.F. for the relief and rehabilitation of the Aden Jews and have also mentioned that I spoke to you on the subject and that he might hear from you as to the possibility of their proffered contribution being used in conjunction with the C.B.F. and J.D.C.

Yours sincerely,



A.G. Brotman,  
Secretary.

AGB/MB.



~~F~~ JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

Paris, May 3rd, 1948.-  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance.

*Adresse Télégraphique: Tcasso*

Référence à Rappeler  
dans votre réponse

GA/HG

Annexes

Mr. M. Stephany,  
The Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
L o n d o n .-

Dear Sir,

We receive your letter of April 29th (Ref: MS/AK) which crossed our letter of April 26th in which all the necessary informations have been given.

As already stated, the funds will be transferred to the Central British Fund at short notice.

Yours truly,

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

*Samy*

52/115



1

52/116

AIR MAIL

4th May, 1948.

CK/LP

Jewish Colonization Association,  
29, rue de Bienfaisance,  
PARIS.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Claims Agency

We are in receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo and thank you for the grant of £1,000 voted towards the establishment of the Claims Agency. We sincerely hope that when the Agency has been properly constituted and proved its value, you will consider a further grant in support of its work.

Re: Jewish Community in Aden

It is with great satisfaction that we note from your letter of the 26th ultimo, that your Council at their meeting held on the 19th April, decided to make further grants for the rehabilitation of the Jewish population in Aden, viz: £1,000 for relief purposes and £1,000 towards the cost of rebuilding the Girls' School.

We thank you very much for this valuable contribution towards our own work for the Jewish Community in Aden.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



MS/AC

52/117  
6th May, 1948.

A D E N

Dr. Joseph Schwartz telephoned.

Dr. Abuisak is acting as the Representative in Aden of the American Joint Distribution Committee as Dr. Repanski has not yet arrived and may be delayed.

They were on that day sending £2,050 to Dr. Abuisak, of which £1,900 is for Supplementary Relief and £150 for medical and educational purposes. They are advising Dr. Abuisak and the Aden people that this money comes from the Central British Fund and they will adjust the account with the £3,550 which we sent for their account to Dr. Olga Feinberg at the Hashid Camp.

They have asked for a detailed cable of the amount required for the other purposes sanctioned by the Central British Fund and they will send further funds as they are required.

-----

5



5-1118

7th May, 1948

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Osrin,

Mr. Brotman, the Secretary of the Board of Deputies of British Jews has sent on to me a copy of your letter of the 31st March regarding the situation of the Jews in Aden as the result of the recent riots there.

As you will have learned from Mr. Brotman, the Central British Fund has made a substantial grant amounting to approximately £10,000 towards the relief and rehabilitation of the Jews in Aden. As, in your letter to Mr. Brotman, you very kindly promised to contribute towards the cost of sending a King's Counsel to Aden to help prepare the Claims of the Jews who suffered in the riots, I wonder whether as this is no longer necessary, the South African Jewish Appeal would agree to make a contribution towards the grants which the Central British Fund have already made or will in the future be called upon to make for the assistance of the Jews in Aden?

I shall be glad to hear from you in this connection at your early convenience, for which please accept our best thanks in anticipation.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

G. Osrin, Esq.,  
The Secretary,  
South African Jewish Appeal,  
P.O. Box 5991,  
Johannesburg,  
South Africa.



52/119+

AIR MAIL

11th May, 1948.

MS/AC

S. Benin, Esq.,  
Innovation Stores,  
The Crescent,  
ADEN.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to our letter of the 19th ultimo, we have now heard from the American Joint Distribution Committee that Dr. Abuisak is acting as their Director in the absence of Dr. Repanski whose departure has apparently been delayed.

We understand that a sum of £2,050. 0. 0., was sent on the 6th instant by the Joint to Dr. Abuisak, of which £1,900. 0. 0. is for supplementary relief and £150. 0. 0. for medical and educational purposes. We hope that you will have been advised of this and that it comes from the Central British Fund.

I shall be glad if you will kindly let me know as soon as possible what steps have been taken to distribute this money.

I understand that the Paris Office of the Joint Distribution Committee have asked Dr. Abuisak to send them a detailed cable of the other purposes for which the Central British Fund has provided the money and that as soon as further funds are required, they will be sent.

/over



52/120

- 2 -

I shall be glad if you will kindly let me have  
a report on the present situation as soon as ever possible.

With best thanks in anticipation,

Yours truly,

Secretary.



52/121

IP/RR

11th May, 1948.

Jewish Colonisation Association,  
29, Rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris (8e),  
France.

Dear Sirs,

Further to my letter of the 29th April,  
I have pleasure in informing you that we have today  
received a remittance of £3,000 on your behalf from  
the Westminster Bank Ltd., and I have pleasure in  
enclosing herewith our official receipt.

This sum represents £2,000 to be used for  
relief work in Aden, and £1,000 towards the cost of  
the Claims Agency.

May I take this opportunity of expressing  
once again our great appreciation of your kind help.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



52/122

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
87-83  
INVALIDES 87-55  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

May 14, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
for Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Ref: Aden

Dear Mr. Stephany,

This is in reference to your letter of March 18, 1948, addressed to Dr. Schwartz regarding the Central British Fund appropriation for Aden, as well as to recent conversations you have had with Dr. Schwartz regarding the Aden program.

When we advised our representatives in Palestine and Aden of your grant in the amount of £9,400., we instructed them to use this amount only for the purposes indicated in your March 18th letter. In this connection, however, you will recall that Mr. Bentwich, upon his return from Aden, expressed the opinion that the relief grant was not necessary in view of the fact that the Government was providing necessary relief funds. He felt that emphasis should be placed on the reconstruction aspects of the program - loan funds, educational work, etc.

We have been in touch with Mr. Viteles in Palestine regarding this and he now informs us that Dr. Abuisak has advised him that the Government in Aden has been providing adequate funds for relief but that beginning the end of May small scale supplementary relief will be needed. In view of this Dr. Abuisak has recommended that approximately half your grant of £9,400. be used for the reconstruction part of the program. We wish to endorse Dr. Abuisak's recommendation and we would like to hear from you at your earliest convenience as to whether you are in accord with this suggestion.

Sincerely yours,



Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG/fc

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compania Unida Reconstruccion Ayuda, Mexico, and others



# SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH WAR APPEAL

CONTROLLED BY THE  
SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES

*For Jewish Relief and Reconstruction*

ALL CHEQUES TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO

S.A. JEWISH WAR APPEAL

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

AUGUST HOUSE,

78, End Street,

JOHANNESBURG

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SECRETARY

P.O. Box 5991.

GO/FB

14th May, 1948

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
The Secretary,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your  
letter of the 7th of this month.

I regret that my Committee could not see  
its way to accede to your request that we shall contribute  
£1,000 to your Fund towards your commitments for Aden.

We shall, however, be glad to pay our  
pro rata share of the legal expenses as originally discussed,  
if you will kindly furnish us with a statement of account.

Yours truly,  
G. Osrin



Secretary.



## CABLE &amp; WIRELESS LTD

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VIA IMPERIAL

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NO.

19 30 5

SENT OUT

BY

52/104  
2538

CL.

DNSA65 CM62 ADEN 18 17 1024

=LC= MIGRATE LONDON =

HC4 RECEIVED TWOHUNDRED FORTYTWO POUNDS

STOP MAY BUDGET NOT YET ARRIVED

URGENTLY NEEDED DR FEINBERG \* HC4 \*

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL.





50125

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52/126

MS/AC

20th May, 1948

Dear Dr. Feinberg,

I duly received your cablegram of the 27th ultimo, advising that you had received the sum of £3,550:-:-; which, at the request of the American Joint Distribution Committee, I sent by telegraphic transfer to the National Bank of India, Aden, for the credit of your account on the 30th March, and I am now in receipt of your cablegram of the 17th instant, reading:

"REC IV L TWOHUNDRED FORTYTWO POUNDS STOP MAY BUDGET NOT YET ARRIVED URGENTLY NEEDED DR FEINBERG"

I imagine that this cable was really intended for the American Joint Distribution Committee of 119, rue Saint-Dominique, Paris, which is the body which had undertaken responsibility for the maintenance of the Yemenite Jews in the Hashed Camp. I was in Paris yesterday and mentioned this matter to the Representative of the Joint there, who confirmed that the £242:-:-: had been sent by them and that arrangements were being made to cover the budget of the Camp for May.

My object in writing to you to-day is to point out that the Central British Fund has until now made grants towards the maintenance of the Jews in Aden as distinct from those in the Hashed Camp and that the responsibility of the latter is at the moment on the American Joint Distribution Committee.

It may be that in the near future, the position may change and that the Central British Fund might be providing a certain amount of money towards the cost of the maintenance of the Yemenite Jews in the Hashed Camp, but if this occurred, official notification would be sent to you at a later stage.

P.T.O.



52/127

In the meantime, I am sure you will understand that your request for funds should be sent to the American Joint Distribution Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

Dr. Olga Feinberg.  
Administrator.  
Hashed Camp,  
ADEN.



52/128

20th May, 1948

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

A D E N

On my return to London to-day, I found your letter of the 14th instant.

I am putting before the Council the suggestion that part of our grant of £6,000 for Relief should be used for reconstruction purposes and I hope to be able to confirm this in the course of a few days without waiting for a meeting of the Council. As soon as I know, I will write to Dr. Abuisak and advise him and also ask him what further cash he actually requires so that we can make any remittances that may be needed in this connection.

I have also written a letter, as arranged, to Dr. Feinberg, explaining our position at the moment and I enclose herewith a copy for your information.

Please accept my very best thanks for all your help yesterday. I shall be writing you separately about some of the other matters.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

M.W. Beckelman, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7<sup>e</sup>),  
France.

P.T.O.



52/129

P.S. Since writing the foregoing, I have received your telegram of last evening, asking me to delay action in regard to the proposal to use part of the Relief money for reconstruction purposes. I am not, therefore, writing to Dr. Abuissak until I hear further from you.



Charges to pay

s. d.

RECEIVED

POST



OFFICE

No.

52/130

OFFICE STAMP

TELEGRAM

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

9

At m

From

By

At m

51-7098 MP

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B or C



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87

At \_\_\_\_\_ m

From \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

No. 021131

OFFICE STAMP



At \_\_\_\_\_ m

To \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

SI-7098 MP

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OFFICE

No. 52 50

OFFICE STAMP

TELEGRAM

Prefix Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

At \_\_\_\_\_ m

88

From \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

At \_\_\_\_\_ m

To \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

51.7098 MP

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B or C



Charges to pay

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TELEGRAM

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

89

No. 42183

OFFICE STAMP

At \_\_\_\_\_ m

From \_\_\_\_\_

By 16

At \_\_\_\_\_ m

To \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

SI-7098 MP

QUIRY" or call, with this form  
n. and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C



MS/RE

24th May, 1948.

AIR MAIL.

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

Your cablegram of the 20th instant crossed my letter of the same date, and in accordance with your request I am delaying taking any action with regard to Aden until I hear further from you.

We have a meeting of our Council on Monday next, and I should be glad to hear from you before that date if possible.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

M.W. Beckelman, Esq.,  
119, Rue St. Dominique,  
Paris, M.  
France.



# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

May 29, 1948


Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letters of May 20 and  
May 24 regarding Aden.

I am very sorry that I have not yet been able to send you a  
report clarifying the situation there. Although our communica-  
tions with Harry Viteles in Tel Aviv have not been cut, it is  
difficult to get a cable through to him and a reply. We have  
only just received confirmation from him that our cables sent  
through just after you visited us have been received. We are  
expecting a report on Aden very soon and we shall then get in  
touch with you.

Yours sincerely,

  
Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG:mb



5-1186

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

June 1, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Weburn House  
Upper Weburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

Although we are still awaiting a complete report from Aden regarding the program there, we have received word from Mr. Harry Viteles regarding the Central British Fund grant of £ 9,400 for Aden.

According to information that has been received our representatives in Aden are doing everything possible to obtain increased governmental participation in relief assistance for the people in need in Aden and there is a possibility that they will be successful. It is for this reason that we feel it would be best at this time for the Central British Fund to permit us to utilize half the grant of £ 9,400 for reconstruction purposes as mentioned in our letter of May 14. On the other hand, it should be noted that in the event that adequate governmental relief is not forthcoming and it should be necessary to use more than 50 per cent of the £ 9,400 for relief purposes, then that should have your agreement as well. We are certain you will understand that the reason for this request ~~at this time~~ is due to the difficulties involved in communicating with Aden and Palestine at this time and we believe it would be in the best interests of the people in Aden if our representatives there could make use of your grant as may be necessary in view of the changing conditions. We would greatly appreciate it therefore if you would let us have your approval on this as soon as possible.

You will be interested to know that according to information we have just received, the Jewish Agency may be prepared to grant certificates to the population now in the Yemenite camp in Aden provided their exit is authorized and shipping is available. As we receive additional information on this we shall advise you.

Sincerely yours,

*M. W. Beckelman*  
M. W. Beckelman  
Vice-Chairman

MWB:mb



3rd June, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

I am in receipt of your communication of the 29th ultimo from which I note that you have not yet heard from Mr. Viteles regarding the situation in Aden.

At the meeting of the Council held on Monday last, I reported the suggestion that part of the £6,000 we voted for relief, should be used for the re-establishment of some of the sufferers, with which the Council was in agreement, but I also told them that you had asked that no action be taken until you get your further report.

The Council also considered the question of the renovation and extension of the girls school in Aden which was required for the tuition of both the boys and the girls. Professor Norman Bentwich states that the Government is prepared to pay half of the expenses of renovating the school which is estimated to cost £4,500, so that their contribution would be about £2,250. It has been suggested that the school should be extended whilst it is being repaired at an additional cost of £2,000 towards which, of course, the Government would not make any contribution. This would mean that in order to have the school in a fit state to take both the boys and the girls, a total sum of £6,500 would have to be provided, of which Government would pay £2,250 leaving a balance of £4,250 to be provided for this purpose.



The Council agreed to make a vote for this and I should be glad if you would kindly let me have your views as to the best method in which this project could be carried out and supervised. In view of the urgency of the matter I should be glad if you could let me hear from you in this connection as soon as ever possible.

As stated above, we are anxiously awaiting further news with regard to the general relief and re-establishment problem in Aden and hope that your further information will not be long delayed.

I would also mention that the Council made a grant of £3,550 towards the cost of the maintenance of the Yemenite refugees in the Hassid Camp. The £3,550 which we remitted to Dr. Olga Feinberg on the 8th April, 1948 can be taken as payment of this grant.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Melvin S. Goldstein, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris, 7.



52/139

Jel-Aviv, 6th June, 1948  
XXXXXX

XX

T23/1224

Dr. Abuisak,  
Jewish Emergency Committee,  
Aden.

Dear Dr. Abuisak,

I apologize for writing to you in English. As you know, the Central Bank now has to do all the work of the Joint, Hadassah and considerable other work for the Government, and in consequence our Hebrew department is very busy and understaffed. Therefore, I hope you will forgive me for writing in English and that you will have no difficulties in understanding this letter.

2. I write because we are not making any headway in our exchange of cables. In your desire to economize in words, some of your cables are very unclear. This letter will deal with the problems raised in your AD12 and AD14.

3. Your AD14 does not include the figures I requested in our TAGS. According to our records you have received the following:-

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1) Mr. Benin's representative  | Rupees 20,000 |
| 2) Mr. Cohen's "   | 10,000        |
| 3) Jewish Emergency Committee, Aden, equivalent of<br>or 500 participation in the medical program, approx. | 6,660         |
| 4) Jewish Emergency Committee, Aden, equivalent of<br>or 200 participation in educational program, approx. | 2,360         |
| 5) AJDC Paris, equivalent of or 2,050, approx.   | 27,330        |
| <u>Total</u>   | <u>66,350</u> |

4. I am unable to figure out from your AD12 and from your two reports of 3rd and 7th May, how much you spent or for what purposes. On receipt of this letter you will please cable immediately confirmation of the figures given above regarding income, and also figures about all of your expenditures, stating so much for emergency relief, so much for medical, so much automobile, etc. In this connection, I wish to clear up the following five points about which there seems to be a misunderstanding:-

(a) You are the acting administrator, and as such all members of the staff in Aden, including Mr. Berger (excluding all members of the staff of the Hashid Camp) are directly responsible to you and must address all their communications through you. Only you should communicate with us and in the event that any member of the staff wishes to communicate with us directly, they must do so through you.

(b) As acting administrator you are responsible for the entire financial



administration. Mr. Berger had no right to borrow any money from the Committee. You must supply Mr. Berger with his financial requirements out of the funds in your possession and in accordance with the provisions of the budget;

- (c) The expenditures cannot exceed the appropriations or budgets which have been approved and fixed. There can be no contravention of this procedure. Any expenditures which you shall make in addition to the budgets fixed or any additional expenditures which you have to make within the budget, but for purposes other than those specified in the budget (such as school luncheons), you must first be authorised by us.
- (d) The funds which you have received in Aden and from Paris and funds which you may receive in the future, are to be used for covering the expenditures for all activities. It makes no difference whether the 20,000 Rupees from Benin's agent were intended for relief and the 10,000 received from Cohen's agent were earmarked for reconstruction loans. We wish to avoid sending additional funds until we know that you have used up all other funds which you have received to date per paragraph 3 above.
- (e) While in my recommendations I mention a per diem allowance of \$1 for the staff, this was not approved except for Mr. Betensky. You, Miss Slonim and Mr. Berger have entered into binding contracts with the JDC and these contracts fix the terms of payment. There is no mention in these contracts of a per diem allowance. The Community is providing you, Miss Slonim and Mr. Berger with accommodations free of charge. All of you have now raised the question of per diem because you probably advised Mr. Berger and Miss Slonim about my recommendations in the report, and if this is the case, it was wrong of you to do so. It is also not correct of all of you now to ask for per diem when this was not a condition in the contract. At all events, as you know, I am only acting for the JDC and I have no right to change the terms of the contract without Mr. Passman's authority, and Mr. Passman can give such authority only after consultation with Paris. Therefore, if you and the others desire to press your request for per diem, which I do not think you should do, then you must do so in writing and I shall refer the question to Mr. Passman.

5. I give below a statement of all of the funds which have been appropriated for work in Aden, and the purposes for which these amounts were appropriated.

- (a) The Central British Fund have appropriated \$9,400 for the following purposes:  
 \$6,000 Supplementary Relief, \$1,000 Education, \$1,200 Medical Program, and \$1,200 purchase of cloths and other clothing.

With regard to the \$6,000 for Supplementary Relief, there is no objection to your using part of this money for school luncheons or similar purposes. Furthermore, if you are absolutely sure that all of the \$6,000 will not be required for various types of supplementary Relief, you may use such amount, but not exceeding \$3,000, for reconstruction loans. It is my view that inasmuch as we will be unable to get any additional funds for Supplementary Relief, and since



6.6.48

it is as yet too early definitely to fix the amounts which will be required for Supplementary Relief during the next few months, you would be well advised, at least for the present, not to divert any part of the £ 6,000 for purposes other than Supplementary Relief. You may also use this £ 6,000 for milk and any other purposes to improve the health of the undernourished children, to which you refer in your AD14.

(ii) The £ 1200 for the Medical Program is intended to defray the cost of the food of the hospital patients. It was estimated at £ 100 per month. Since you spent £ 200 for an automobile and we had previously transmitted £ 200 to Miss Slanim, there remains only £ 800 for the medical program. Therefore, there is no objection to your using for the medical program other funds, which will be referred to later, received from other sources.

(iii) The £ 1,000 for education is divided into £ 500 one-time expenditure for equipment, £ 240 subsidy to the school for refugees administered by Abadyahu Tuviah, and £ 240 was intended as a subsidy for the private girl-school, provided we would use that building also for the accommodation of the girls from the regular girls' school which has been destroyed. Inasmuch as these arrangements were not made, Mr. Berger may use this £ 240 for the purposes mentioned in his cable to me of the 2nd inst. which should have been sent through you. I am trying to obtain additional funds for Mr. Berger for education, but until such time as I advise you that the amounts have been increased, Mr. Berger may not exceed the total budget of £ 1,200 for one year. If less than £ 500 for equipment are necessary, then the difference between the £ 500 approved and the expenditure for the equipment may be used for other educational purposes by Mr. Berger. I, too, am very anxious to give Mr. Berger the maximum amount for education, but I am not prepared for the AJDC or anybody else to assume the responsibility for the wages of the regular teachers who were employed at the school, or for the other regular expenditures which have been defrayed by Mr. Benin.

(iv) With regard to the £ 1200 for club and clothing, I feel that you may add this to the £ 6,000 which was earmarked for Supplementary Relief, because clothing can be considered as relief. To the extent that you feel that all of the £ 1200 will not be required for clothing during your year's service, you may use such amount for medical work, particularly the preventative measures described in your letters of the 3rd and 7th May.

(b) Aden Jews in Palestine have contributed 20,000 Rupees which you collected from Mr. Benin's agents in Aden, and £ 900 which were received in Palestine. These two amounts may be used for Supplementary Relief, medical work, and education, and to the extent that you consider these amounts are not required for the above-mentioned purposes, the Aden Jews here wish that the money should be used for reconstruction loans. I would like to have yours and Mr. Berger's recommendations about the use of the 20,000 Rupees and £ 900 and I also will then let you have our decision after consulting with the Aden Jews in Palestine.

(c) AJDC has appropriated £ 4,000 for housing loans and £ 10,000 for reconstruction loans. The AJDC has no objection to your using part of the £ 4,000 approved for housing loans for reconstruction loans.



provided you feel that this is possible. I however, am unable to accept your recommendations that the term of repayment of the reconstruction loans should exceed five years and the term of repayment of the housing loans should exceed ten years. Furthermore, none of the £14,000 is intended for the financing of the ~~Committee~~, which Mr. Benin advised me he and his family would undertake as their responsibility. However, the £14,000 may be used for repair of stores which were only slightly damaged, and which the owners wish to repair. The loans may be given without interest and should be advanced through a bank for the account of the AJDC. The repayments should be in monthly instalments and in the case of the reconstruction loans should begin three months after the date of issue and in the case of the housing loans, one month after the house or shops have been repaired. But in both cases, the total term of repayment cannot exceed five years for reconstruction loans and ten years for housing loans. Furthermore, I cannot understand why you wish to transmit immediately the entire £14,000. I shall be glad to make a careful study of each case, and I am sure that it will be possible to find a practicable solution for each case.

- (d) The AJDC has an allocation of £2,000 through the JDC for reconstruction loans on the same terms and conditions as the £14,000 which the JDC has appropriated for reconstruction loans.
- (e) Mr. Green has also agreed to contribute £2,000 towards also for reconstruction loans on the same terms and conditions as those for the JDC and ICA.
- (f) Asmara Kehila - there is an Asmara of about £800 - 1000 which I can ask them to send to you and which must be used for reconstruction loans on the same terms as JDC and ICA. If you will so advise me, I will cable to the Asmara Kehila to transmit the funds to you.

In other words, you have for reconstruction and housing loans nearly £17,000 plus £10,000 Pounds. This amount I consider to be the maximum which can be made available under the present circumstances. As and when we have issued all of this amount and if there is still need for an additional amount, I will do my best to try to get such additional funds for this purpose, but I must warn you in advance that the JDC and ICA are very much pressed for funds.

6. In your AD14 you also raise the question of two childrens nurses and of opening a kindergarden. It will be very difficult, if at all possible, to get two childrens nurses in Palestine. I have asked Mr. Benin whether he could assign two childrens nurses from the Camp in Cyprus for 3 - 6 months work in Aden. The cost of childrens nurses would have to be charged against the appropriations either for Supplementary Relief or for medical assistance. With regard to the kindergarden, I am in full agreement about the need for same. I am prepared, on yours and Mr. Berger's joint recommendation, to use part of the 20,000 Pounds and/or £500, which the Aden Jews in Palestine have contributed, for defraying the expenditures of this kindergarden. But I would like to receive a cable estimate of the costs.

7. I hope that I have covered all the points in our exchange of cables. I also want you and the other members of the staff to know how much I and everybody else appreciates your work and devotion. I am not unaware of the very difficult climatic and general conditions in Aden, but you will have the satisfaction of doing a constructive and productive piece of work. I also want you to know that we are ready to do everything within reasonable limits to help you in your work.

With kindest personal regards to yourself and to the staff, Yours sincerely,

HV/HN

*Chaim S. R. Benin & M. Selam Effendi*



TELEPHONES: EUSTON { 3925  
3926  
3979

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: 16  
INLAND: "MIGRATE, KINCROSS, LONDON."  
CABLEGRAMS: "MIGRATE, LONDON."

# THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF & REHABILITATION

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CHAIM WEIZMANN, ESQ.  
PH.D., D.SC., LL.D.

HON. PRESIDENT:  
THE RT. HON. VISCOUNT SAMUEL, P.C.

CHAIRMAN:  
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H. OSCAR JOSEPH, ESQ.

SECRETARY:  
M. STEPHANY, F.L.A.A.

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1

Please quote: CK/AC

8th June, 1948

Dear Mr. Montefiore,

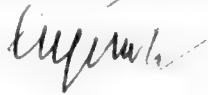
You will recall that at the meeting of the Council held on the 10th March, 1948, an amount of £9,400 was voted for the Aden Jewish Community to be used in accordance with recommendations received from the American Joint Distribution Committee as follows:-

£6,000 for Relief purposes,  
£1,200 to cover medical expenses for one year,  
£1,200 for clothing for one year,  
£ 500 for educational purposes and  
£ 500 for educational equipment.

We have now received a letter from the American Joint Distribution Committee in Paris, copy of which I enclose.

I should be obliged if you would let me know whether we can comply with the request of the Joint to let their representatives in Aden decide which part of our grant of £9,400 should be used for reconstruction and relief purposes, respectively.

Yours sincerely,



M. Secretary.

Leonard G. Montefiore, Esq.,  
37, Weymouth Street,  
London, W.1.



CK/AC

8th June, 1948

Dear Mr. Joseph,

You will recall that at the meeting of the Council held on the 10th March, 1948, an amount of £9,400 was voted for the Aden Jewish Community to be used in accordance with recommendations received from the American Joint Distribution Committee as follows:-

- £6,000 for Relief purposes,
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I should be obliged if you would let me know whether we can comply with the request of the Joint to let their representatives in Aden decide which part of our grant of £9,400 should be used for reconstruction and relief purposes respectively.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

H. Oscar Joseph, Esq.,  
7/8, Princes Street,  
London, E.C.2.



CK/AC

8th June, 1948

Dear Mr. de Rothschild,

You will recall that at the meeting of the Council held on the 10th March, 1938, an amount of £9,400 was voted for the Aden Jewish Community to be used in accordance with recommendations received from the American Joint Distribution Committee as follows:-

- £6,000 for Relief purposes,
- £1,200 to cover medical expenses for one year,
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Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Anthony G. de Rothschild, Esq.,  
New Court,  
St. Swithin's Lane,  
London, E.C.4.



Tel-Aviv, 7th June, 1948  
XXXXXXX

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123/1225

Dr. J. Schwartz,  
A.M.P.C.,  
Paris

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

Aden.

Enclosed are two copies each of a summary of two letters from Dr. Abuisak of 3rd and 7th ult., and two of Dr. Feinberg's letters of 3rd ult. We referred to Dr. Abuisak's reports in our cable LA38 of 4th inst. Miss Wilkinson, who prepared the summary, also corrected Dr. Abuisak's English. The two previous reports referred to Dr. Abuisak's letter of 3rd ult. were not received. A few explanations follow:

A. Letter from Dr. Abuisak  
of 3.5.48.

1. "Cohen tenthousand rupees" - "Received 20,000 rupees - Benin (Tel-Aviv)"  
(about £ 2300)

The Aden Jews in Palestine have contributed 30,000 rupees (per above) in Aden and £ 900 in Palestine. 10,000 of the 30,000 rupees was earmarked for reconstruction loans and the Aden Jews in Palestine would like us to use as much as possible of the other 20,000 rupees and of the £ 900 for reconstruction work. Benin's plans for a Jewish commercial centre have not so far materialized.

2. Supplementary relief - The amount of £ 1,000 rupees "Supplementary Relief" is per week. Present indications lead to the conclusion that it may be impossible to divert any part of the CFF £ 2,400 for reconstruction loans. I authorised *abu-* using the Supplementary Relief Budget for children's luncheons.

3. Education - Apparently the JDC is not honouring its pledge to participate with £ 200. I also wrote to Dr. Abuisak that Mr. Berger is accountable to him.

4. Housing and Reconstruction loans - Dr. Abuisak suggested fifty and ten years for repayment of housing and reconstruction loans respectively; we authorised ten and five years respectively. We agreed that loans should be interest free and asked that they should be given through the Federal Bank of India on the AJIC account. He thinks that £ 20,000 are required for reconstruction loans. We, therefore, in our LA99 asked for another £ 4,000 for reconstruction loans (in addition to the JDC £ 10,000; £ 2,000 ICA, and £ 2,000 local contributions). It may be possible to use for reconstruction loans part of the £ 4,000 approved for housing loans.



7.6.48

5. Medical - You will note that the medical budget is £P 140 or £P 40 per month higher than estimated. In our TA98 we asked for additional £P 1500 because the JEC had not paid its £P 500 participation and we had not included a full-time physician in our program. In appointing Dr. Abuisak we also had to consider the needs of the Hashid Camp in the event of unforeseen circumstances preventing Dr. Feinberg from carrying on. We also are trying to get two infant nurses requested by Dr. Abuisak.

6. We had agreed to allow per diem of £P 1 per day only for Mr. Betensky. Now the other three (Dr. Abuisak, Miss Slonim and Mr. Berger) insist on per diem. Though their contracts did not provide for this, it would be advisable to comply with their request. It would be most inconvenient if, using this as an excuse, any of the staff left.

B. Dr. Feinberg's letter  
of 3.5.48

Action has been taken on the last paragraph of Dr. Feinberg's letter "Salem" referred to is "Salem Benin", the chairman of the JEC - who, during my visit to Aden, arranged for Yemenite refugees to move into the building which was used for Lalutzim activities. We do not propose to go into the question of the relationship of Dr. Abuisak to the Sharya. It is most unfortunate that Dr. Betensky is still in Cyprus and I hope that Paris has cabled authority to charter the plane per our TA98 of 3rd inst.

A translation of a Hebrew report of 24.4.48 about the Camp's activities will be mailed in a few days.

Yours sincerely,

Garry Viteles

Encls.

CC - AJDC Jerusalem (with one copy of Summary)

IV/HN



3rd May, 1948

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Dear Mr. Viteles,

For your information, I am glad to let you know that we had a very nice Pessach, except for some unfortunate happenings that I will give in detail further down. The outstanding event of the feast was the Seder of about 300 orphans in which I took part together with my whole staff. It was a moving sight - all these children celebrating in such a manner - probably for the first time in their lives. I had arranged for them to have all sorts of extra provisions on account of the special allowance of LP.200 you were kind enough to grant us.

In this connection I would like you to know that this sum has not arrived so that I had to borrow elsewhere.

On Wednesday, the 5th day of the feast, the children had a beautiful show, composed of songs - executed by a chorus of about eighty - some declamations and dances. We should have had a football game too but that was cancelled by the opposite team of Aden as a result of a most unreasonable, and I should say, brutal interference of the Jewish Community in cooperation with Sharya. They not only forced the team not to come but even stopped all Adenites who wanted to come as spectators. For instance, a lorry carrying some young people was surrounded by a gang of youths (paid by Salem Benin) armed with sticks and bottles of ink, who stopped the lorry from leaving the Jewish quarter under threat of using their arms.

The next day the situation deteriorated even more. The Halutzim arranged, as usual, their annual celebration in a private house. At the middle of the programme, four of Salem's paid gangsters broke up the meeting by hitting people with sticks and throwing chairs all around. My teachers were not exempted from this attack. Benyamin Ratzaby was hit with a stick, Ovadya was hit in the face with a chair and the same happened to Shimon Shaer who was fortunately saved from serious injury to his eyes as he was wearing spectacles at the time. Many others were injured and one girl had to be taken to hospital with a severe attack of hysterics. I afterwards took the written statements of my teachers to the Chief of Police, Mr. Swaine, who took action in my presence. As I was informed later, four of these gangsters were arrested, only to be released on bail, offered very "generously" by Salem. He was actually ready to pay thousands if necessary ... It seems to me that this gang is all out to destroy everything that has been done until now.

I cannot help connecting this with the acting of Dr. Abuisak, who has accepted having conferences with the Sharya and gave his support to them in breaking the Halutz movement. There have been some initial mistakes done by Mr. Berger too, but he understands it now and is trying to correct his steps. As you know, Mr. Viteles, Ovadya has invested 2½ years' hard work in Aden and was fighting against the whole Sharya singlehanded -- and won. Never before did they dare to resort to open violence, even when the fight against him was at its highest. That is why I am so bitter about this. He should have had the common sense to consult those who knew already the mentality of the Adenites and the whole history of the Sharya versus Ovadya.



I must inform you that Dr. Abuisak tried also to interfere with my administrative work in Hashed Camp. As you know, the inmates of the camp have the habit to pester any newcomer with letters about their past and present grievances. That they did to Dr. Abuisak too who instead of telling them off right away, appealed to me to forgive these people. And as it happens, they are those criminals that I had to expel from the camp and about whose trial you have already been informed. As I found out later he did not even trouble to acquaint himself with the facts concerning the petitioners before applying to me.

I should be glad if I knew that you will intervene at least with Dr. Abuisak to convert him to a more constructive and less dissident attitude. I am writing to you confidently of the necessity of letting you know all this, especially as you know personally what we have suffered until we reached comparative peace.

With best wishes and regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) OLGA FEINBERG

P.S.- There seems to be a misunderstanding in London in regard to financial matters concerning Hashid Camp and Aden City administration. I enclose a letter Dr. Abuisak has given me from which you will get a picture of the error. For the same purpose I enclose the cable that was sent to me and I wish you would return it after perusal. I also cabled to London but I should like that you correct it personally.

O.F.



CONDENSATION OF REPORT

sent to Mr. H. Viteles

by Dr. Abuisak,  
Jewish Emergency Committee,  
Crater, ADEN.

*C M files*

3. V. 48

T.23/1210

TSANEH

This letter repeats the two previous reports. The material given regarding conditions in Tsaneh is based on a few letters from private persons in Yemen and on correspondence between a merchant and his agent in Aden. Official sources not contactable at present. For time being only one youth of 14 came from Yemen. It appears that:

During the war between Alwizir and the present King, there were no forces available to protect anyone and, as usual, the Jews first to be hurt. When the King's army came into the town, the soldiers started to loot, the Jews in particular suffering. The soldiers even removed doors and windows from the houses, beds and wearing apparall. Only a very few Jews managed to hide some goods.

Two Jews were killed.

Looting also occurred in Thireh, Damar, Taiz(?)... nothing happened in Sharab am in one town (Jibla) the King - Seiful Islam - prevented riots.

Possible Relief

Trying to contact all members of the community but communication so difficult, will take more than a fortnight for an answer.

At present, information received shows that there are about 3000 - 5000 Jews in Tsaneh. Government gives half petrol tin of durra and one real ( 200 mils Palestine ?) per week per head per family to all people who have been deprived of their goods by the looters.

As not possible for anyone to go to Yemen at present we must send relief directly to the community, informing as many as possible fo the relief sent and to send same amount to all, informing them all of the amount each receives. "Perhaps the relief will be distributed in part honestly".

Very difficult to send food - will contact the Aden Food Controller.

Until I receive orders I am trying to contact all I can and perhaps shall be able to find other means of sending relief but for the presen am unable to submit the amount of relief, social or otherwise.

Cable TA33

Cohen ten thousand ruppees. After much discussion and promising to employ the grant only for the reconstruction scheme, Mr. Cohen's agent agreed to pay the amount.

Received 20,000 rupees Benin(TelAviv)

Supplementary Relief

No relief at all provided. First 10,000 rupees spent and provisions in stores. The Government relief of 9000 rupees quite insufficient. Many people complained about not receiving meat. Saw many people working who had a servant ( 3 rupees a montn) and



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receiving milk and government allowance.

It must be remembered the Aden mentality is of the feudal type and mutual aid is unknown.

The J.E.C. believes the population gets sufficient relief from Government and that at present the people are not much in need of supplementary relief. If in the near future the Government cuts the relief then for sometime there will be need of supplementary relief. We have decided to distribute (by 10th May) the products in store (bought with the first 10,000 rupees) in case of emergency.

#### Children's Relief

All the children are undernourished and there is real necessity to open kindergartens where one proper meal a day will be served. This means installation of school kitchens and housing situation is very bad. But children are in need of one good meal and milk. The J.E.C. does not understand this programme or why I am interested in improving conditions for the children. Roughly - about 1000 children from 1 to 14 years and about 600 are in need of supplementary food - about 500 rupees a day (estimated). The scheme will be submitted within next few days.

#### Education

Mr. Berger has received a loan of £.200 to be repaid from the Reconstruction Loan. The J.E.C. claims cannot honour promise of participation. Berger needs £.300 more - in all £.500 one-time grant for school equipment and furniture. As per your instructions, I have no responsibility for these expenses.

#### Construction Loan

Government has agreed to a onetime ex gratia grant of 100,000 rupees to be distributed in next few days among small claimants to enable them to resume their work. This grant has no connection with the compensation claims. If this grant is distributed, and the Government cuts the relief largely then there will be need of supplementary relief and I shall supply same on a reduced scale.

At present impossible to start reconstruction of the proposed Jewish commercial centre. When the situation is clarified, it will be discussed. Certain persons believe that it is possible to suggest to Mr. Benin (TelAviv) that on the land he owns in the Commercial Centre he should build the shops at his own expense as many merchants will be able to pay him in advance 2-3 years rent.

It must be remembered that any promise from the Aden people cannot be taken too seriously as sometimes they cannot honour their signed contracts.

The shopping centre scheme is urgent but applies to people who were merchants before the riots and many have not suffered as much as they pretend.

Most urgent is the housing question - many small people having lost a great deal through the riots and there are cases of 15 persons living in one room even though there are many houses closed and ~~not~~ empty. Always the same difficulties due to the feudal spirit.

My own proposition is the following:

(1) Supplementary relief not to be given until situation becomes really very difficult and then the supplementary relief to be given at a reduced scale and only for a period. These people



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can very quickly lean to live on relief and not want to work.

(2) To distribute as soon as possible the Government ex-gratia grant of 100,000 rupees among the small-holders to enable them to resume their work. It will be very difficult to control the distribution and Mrs. Slonim will perhaps help with the supervision. The J.E.C. is only interested in spending the funds as they think fit.

After this distribution, the Government may cut its relief a great deal and it maybe that I shall have to supply for a limited period a small scale supplementary relief.

(3) To repair some of the damaged houses about £.5000 is needed ( report will be sent in a few days) to enable people to have a roof over their heads and to relieve the overcrowding. This applies only to those persons who lost their all.

(4) To rebuild the proposed Jewish Commercial Centre and to allow merchants and others who were looted to resume their former businesses.

Report (3) will be ready in a few days and I believe the relief should be distributed as soon as funds received.

Report (4) is under consideration. Aden people have to be severely treated to curb their indolence.

#### Medical Care

Hospital 12 beds At present 10 patients are being treated for tuberculosis. In the first two weeks I was able to detect 3 new cases and their treatment is preventing the contagion spreading - especially in present overcrowding. Two patients, very bad cases, come under "general sickness." Dr. Cochrane does all he can to help. Once a week patients come to the civilian hospital under my care for X ray examinations. When the situation eases we shall be able to resume the civilian hospital ward. We are accepting difficult cases from Hashid Camp.

Hospital fees at present collected by the J.E.C. In one month got a total of 30 - 40 rupees.

Mrs. Slonim has done excellent work - supervising all the hospital treatment. In spite of our daily technical discussions, I succeeded in getting Mrs. Slonim to stay in Aden till further notice.

Four native Jewish nurses take charge of hospital treatment. Work is done in a primitive manner but correctly done.

The AJJDC provides food for patients and staff ( 4 nurses, 2 cooks, 1 washer) the linen, medicines, some medical equipment and medical treatment. Supervision of treatment undertaken by a JOINT nurse - but without the help of Mrs. Slonim all hospital work will suffer for the present. When more nurses will be educated, responsible people, it will be much easier.

Outpatients No accommodation at all so we decided to receive outpatients in the hospital. The J.E.C. promise to make the alterations so as to enable patients to be examined. Meanwhile I am examining the patients in the Nurses' Room. Examination hours are 3 hours per morning and two hours per afternoon.



The out-patients come with the J.E.C. authority (a) free patients, (b) paying 1 rupee (b) paying 2 rupees. All monies are collected in a sealed box and at the end of the month this money will be employed for medical purposes. Patients get most of the medicine free at the cost of the JOINT.

I explained to the J.E.C. that I am particularly interested in the needy patients. Wealthy people may continue to go to private doctors. I do not accept private visits.

The hospital budget will be about £.100 - 120. For the out-patients about £.20 (?) .

Travelling Expenses May I deduct the travelling expenses of Berge and myself as follows: Berger 173 rupees  
Abuisak 418 " including air freight from Asmara to Aden of 92 kgs of medical equipment and medicines.

Staff Allowances Relying on Mr. Viteles' report (page 59) " a per diem allowance of LP.1 is reasonable" May I give this allowance to the staff, including Slonim for the time she is here?

Salary Dr. Abuisak . £.90 per month.

Miscellaneous I took the liberty, without permission, of buying a secondhand Standard car from the Crown Counsel for 2500 rupees. The car is in very good condition and can be sold next year with little reduction. A Somali driver looks after the car for 100 rupees a month. I use the car for all medical visits, transport of hospital patients, sending the cook to the bazaar in the morning, etc. Official work, etc.

APPROXIMATE BUDGET END MAY  
Supplementary Relief. Beginning 20th May 4000 Rupees weekly.

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| One time ( 4 weeks)            | 18,000 rupees |
| Medical care                   | 2,000         |
| Housing Scheme one time        | 65,000        |
| Commercial Centre              | ....          |
| Staff allowance salary         | 2,500         |
| Education ( no responsibility) | 5,000         |
| Total:                         | 92,500        |
| In Cash (approx.)              | 26,500        |

Amount Needed Rupees: 66,000

This is only a rough estimate as lack of time prevents my giving a detailed report. As soon as possible, I shall send you detailed balances, reports, etc.

Taking care of the medical programme is a great task and to supervise the administrative programme of relief is too much for one man. I beg that Mrs. Slonim should take part in all my administrative work.

(Signed)

Dr. Abuisak.



CONDENSATION OF REPORT from

Dr. Abuisak  
Jewish Emergency Committee  
Crater, Aden.

ADEN, 7.V.48

To: Mr. H. Viteles, Tel-Aviv.

T.23/1211

Temporary Supplementary  
Relief

The Government in the next few days will give the 100,000 Rupees ex gratia grant and intends to cut down part of the relief provided. For the first few weeks it will be necessary to provide supplementary relief at reduced rate ... about 4500 rupees weekly for 3 or 4 weeks.

After giving the loan for the housing scheme and the reconstruction loan, it will be necessary to give very limited supplementary relief to about 500 - 600 people in case government completely cuts off its relief. I hope the J.E.C. will provide this fund in case we provide the reconstruction loans.

I must repeat that people are very uncooperative and like to keep their plans to themselves.

Medical See letter (No.3) of 3.5.48 - more details later.

Education Ditto

Staff Allowance Ditto

Housing I contacted nearly all the owners of the burnt houses. Nobody wants to contribute anything to the reconstruction of the burnt houses. They all want the JOINT to repair the house and to pay the loan back in very small repayments over a period of 50 years and more.

In this situation, I propose for the time being to repair 5 to 6 slightly damaged houses to the amount of 20,000 rupees. This to be a loan repayable in 50 years without interest. "The Jewish Law forbids the interest between Jews."

I shall be able to have about 10 rooms at the discretion of the J.E.C. which will help the overcrowding difficulty. When the others see the reconstruction, they will want to accept participation in the repair of their houses which means an individual outlay of over 20,000 rupees.

I suggest that the excess of the C.B.F. may be employed in reconstruction loans.

Government  
ex gratia  
100,000  
Rupees "Approval of an ex gratia payment of 100,000 rupees in necessitous cases without prejudice to the question of compensation from which it should be considered entirely distinct."

It should be clear that this ex gratia payment is to help some of the traders to resume their work and earn a living and that such people should not be given relief.

Very difficult for me to interfere with the way in which this grant should be made but in view of all my suggestions that the grant must be given to small traders so as to permit the other businessmen to profit better from the reconstruction loans, the J.E.C. have in part



agreed although they do not like to be "controlled."

ReconstructionLoan

The 14,000 £ and part of the £.3000 C.B.F. grant will be used as reconstruction loans on long term repayments.

I approached the National Bank of India for collecting the bills - 3 monthly or yearly. (Further report and details in a few days).

Interest rate will be about 1%.

Tsaneh

Thanks for your advice to contact official sources. The American Consul says he knows no more than vague reports -- the riots were only part of the "regular army campaign" and not directed against the Jews than any other part of the population. Relief money can only be sent by sailors going to Yemen. Mostly honest men on whom we can rely.

The opinion of the French Consul was quite different. There is a French medical mission in Tsaneh. According to him there are about 10,000 Jews in Tsaneh who until the recent war were in a very good position - small traders and craftsmen. The conquering army looted all sections of the population irrespective of creed. The Government is giving relief equally to all the population.

Now for the question of relief:

The French Consul believes that today Yemen is the best country in the Arab lands if people would not be so much interested in Zionist questions. If relief were to be given only to the Jews and the Arabs would be left in the same position as before, then there is real possibility of a wave of anti-semitism. And the grant of the relief would only cause anti-Jewish riots.

This opinion should be considered and although I wrote to the Tsaneh people for more information, I shall wait for your instructions.

(Signed)

Dr. Abuisak



12 156

11th June, 1948.

CK/LP

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

Re: Aden

We thank you for your letter of the 1st instant, and are quite in agreement with your proposal that half of our grant of £9,400 be utilised for reconstruction purposes. Should, however, adequate Government relief not be forthcoming and should it be necessary to use more than 50% for relief purposes, we agree that this be done at your discretion.

We would like to add that in the opinion of Professor Norman Bentwich, who was in Aden recently on an official mission for the British Jewish Community, there is an urgent need for medical supplies in Aden. You will recall that out of our grant of £9,400 an amount of £1,200 was set aside for medical purposes and we would wish that this amount be reserved for this.

Yours sincerely,

  
Secretary.

M.W. Beckelman, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



Tel-Aviv  
XXXXXXX

11th June, 1948

*Sping Band.*  
*115*  
*115*  
*EC*

T23/1233

Dr. J. Schwartz,  
AJJDC,  
119, Rue St. Dominique,  
Paris.

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

With reference to the closing sentence of my  
T23/1225 of 7th inst., I enclose herewith two copies  
of a translation of a report by Abadiah Tuvia on the  
general position in Aden.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Viteles

HN.

Encls.

CC - AJDC Jerusalem with copy of the report



Gaulah Camp,  
Near Sheikhotman,  
Aden.

24.4.48

52/158

American Joint Distribution Committee,  
Jerusalem.

Dear Sirs,

The following is a report on the general position in the Camp and in Aden.

1. Security Matters - Lately the situation is quieter. Jews and Arabs travel together in one car on the road between Aden and Steamer Point. Jewish shops in Steamer Point are open until late at night. At night the entries to the Jewish Quarter are closed to all outside vehicles, but Arab and other pedestrians enter the Jewish quarter even at night. The Jews, too, leave their closed quarter and take walks nearby. In Sheik Hotman, however, there is not one Jew. They simply do not dare to enter the place. The Government has been negotiating with the inmates of Sheik Hotman, who are now in the Camp, in order to persuade them to return to Sheik. They refused. There are 400 of them.

The situation in the camp is also quiet. Labourers and ordinary refugees go to and from Aden daily in perfect order and no disturbing incident has occurred.

SEVEN BOMBS WERE FOUND A FORTNIGHT AGO IN ARAB HOUSES NEAR THE JEWISH QUARTER IN ADEN.

2. Life in the Camp - The people of the camp have already gone through the second phase and since the riots and have reached the third, i.e. quarrels and intrigues between themselves and between themselves and the "Managers". Particularly noticeable are a number of difficult people who were sent to the Camp immediately after the pogrom without any screening or selection. Their complaints against Dr. Feinberg were answered by Prof. Bentwich in a letter in which he warns them of the similarity of their complaints to those of Korach against Moses.

But all the same, the position is not so very bad. The refugees are obeying their "managers" and keep the camp in order, and what is more, they apologised to Dr. Feinberg, both in writing and orally, in the presence of the whole camp.

3. Work in the Camp - Work in the camp has increased. The number of permanent labourers has increased and is now more than 130. Moreover, there are about 150 labourers per day working in rotation and on services, mainly on building work (hospital, school and kitchen for orphans). Every night there are 80 people on guard. The number of people working in Aden is 150. In addition, a large number of people are employed in various types of work in the camp, i.e. weavers, cobblers, etc. The "trade" in spices, petrol, etc. (products which are unobtainable in the stores) has developed greatly. Lately we have discovered "trades" against which we were forced to take strong measures; some people sold their soap ration giving as a reason that they had no means to buy spices, petrol, vegetables, etc. Things went so far that the head of the Jewish Community in Heiden (British) stated openly that he would engage in this "trade" notwithstanding Dr. Feinberg's order forbidding it. He, and heads of other communities, claim that as people are not given any money owing to the fact that transfer from relatives in Palestine has been discontinued, and as they have used up their property in the course of years of waiting in Aden, they have no way of supplementing the products they cannot obtain in the stores. Dr. Feinberg has introduced a system by which those who lack means will be able to change one item for another (barter).

4. Employment in Aden - In Aden work has also increased. Government officials have all returned to work. All the Jewish shops in Steamer Point have been reopened. A number of Jews have opened new shops in the Jewish Quarter. The goldsmiths have returned to work, and so have the tailors (the distribution



52/159

of cloth to the sufferers has supplied a great deal of work). In fact, one-third of the members of the community support themselves and do not receive any more help (The Government also has decreased by a third its weekly contributions to the Community).

5. Education in Aden - The boys school in Aden is being managed properly (the teacher Menahem Berger has not started working yet). The number of pupils is 150. Twice a week Mr. Shimon Shaar (one of the Madrichim in the Camp) visits the schools and gives two lessons each time. The girls school "Sukat Shalom" has not been opened yet because there is no suitable place for it, but the private girls school of the teacher Miriam Yehuda has been opened, with about 90 pupils. The refugee school holds three classes during the day and two classes in the evening. The number of pupils is about 120. Students of the Government High School have recommenced their studies.

6. Education in the Camp - The camp's school works regularly under the management of Mr. Shimon Shaar. About 1300 children study in the forenoon and about 500 grown-ups in the afternoon.

The workshops have been expanded and there are about 120 apprentices working in them. I hope that this work will be expanded further in the near future.

Popular artistic activities develop successfully. There is a mixed choir (120 participants) singing in two or three voices, a group of dancers, a drama group and one of flutists.

7. The Chalutz Movement - The movement in the camp is thriving and full of life as usual. We are now setting up a special camp (similar to a youth camp) near the playgrounds. Each group erects for itself a separate hut. The movement in the camp is led by Mr. Benjamin Razavi.

The movement in Aden has been strengthened greatly. Most groups have returned to their usual working routine. Mr. Shimon Shaar visits them twice a week and gives them lectures. The people of the community have forbidden members to sing and play in Aden. As a result of Dr. Abusak's and Menahem Berger's open support of this demand, we were compelled to give in to the Chief Rabbi and the group of elders around him. We have promised that up to the 15th May there will be no singing in Aden during the evening hours. But they were forced to permit the usual singing in our school (the refugee school) during the day. After their above success, they extended their demand to the Camp. I explained to them in no uncertain manner that the management of the camp is in the hands of Dr. Feinberg and that they had no authority to interfere.

8. Miscellaneous - The distribution of clothing in Aden and in the camp has been completed. All the inmates of the camp received clothing, but in Aden the supply of clothing was not sufficient for all the needy. We have not distributed shoes yet because there are not enough of them. We will probably have to cast lot after Pesach. We have received the transports of milk, orange juice, vitamins, medicaments, medical instruments, etc.

We received four cases of books (half of them fiction and half textbooks) from the Vaad Lemaan Golai Kafrisin. We have also received from them two cases of toys and games. We have also received the books for which we had asked the Immigration Dept. of the Jewish Agency. All the transports were divided between the Aden community and the Camp.

9. The Situation of our Brethren in Yemen - Several Jews came to us from Yemen and told us about what is happening there and about the situation of our brethren in various districts. We have also received several letters which describe the position. The general impression is that the Jews were completely robbed in many places but there was no special action against them. They have suffered just like all the other inhabitants. There were very few losses in men. It appears that the crownprince has also enlisted Jews.



52/160

In a letter from Teaneh the following is written:

We have gone through various troubles (the date given in the letter is the 17.2.48 but the statement is given as an addendum to the letter and apparently was written at a later date), we were robbed and put to shame and death and now we are in a very terrible position. Let us hope that we will survive in spite of this bad period.

(Signed) Abadiah Tuviah



52/161  
**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

**EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL**

**119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)**

**TELEPHONE**  
87-83  
INVALIDES } 87-55  
79-37  
**CABLES & TELEGRAMS**  
**JOINTFUND-PARIS**

**June 14, 1948**

**Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Weburn House  
Upper Weburn Place  
London, W.C.1**

**Dear Mr. Stephany:**

Thank you very much for your letter of June 3, 1948 wherein we note that the Council of the Central British Fund has voted the sum of £ 4,250 towards the cost of the renovation and extension of the girls' school in Aden.

We wish to advise you that our Mr. Betensky, who has been assigned by us as the Administrator of the program in Aden, and who has been delayed due to the difficulties in connection with obtaining necessary transit visas, is arranging for a direct flight to Aden and we expect that he will be there within the next few days. We will then take up with him the best method by which the school project can be carried out and supervised.

We will be in touch with you regarding this.

**Sincerely yours,**

*Melvin S. Goldstein*  
**Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary**

**MSG:mb**



Aden, 20th June 1948.,

52/162

The Secretary,  
The Central British Fund,  
For Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation.  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.2.,

Dear Sir,

On behalf of Aden Jewish Merchants and Traders whose shops were looted and or burnt during the recent pogrom, we the undersigned have the honour to appeal to your sympathy and assistance in this dire hour.

1. As you all no doubt aware during the said pogrom a good number of the houses and the greater part of the shops and or godowns of us the Jews here were completely looted and or burnt. As a result a good percentage of the community were put to the mercy of great suffering and hardship.
2. In January last, the Joint sent here Mr. Viteles to study the situation for himself and recommend. Mr. Viteles saw all that betook us and he recommended 'immediate relief and rehabilitation loan'. Unfortunately seven months elapsed and nothing was seen.
3. We understand from the press that over £10000 were raised by you for our relief and rehabilitation and same were sent through the Joint. It is also known that a further sum of \$50000 and \$40000 were subscribed by the World Jewish Congress, New York and by The Joint Distribution Committee, New York. So far nothing of these could be seen. *respectively.*
4. RATION:- From the reports which appeared in The Jewish Standard and The Jewish Chronicle, we gather that you and other Jewish Bodies are under the impression that in addition to the Free Ration which is being distributed by the Government of Aden the community are also receiving 'supplementary ration' from the Joint. That is not so. 'Supplementary ration' was distributed once only and that was about 4 weeks back. Since December last, the community been living on that 'scanty' ration which is being given by the Government. On the average this is what each soul receives per week:-  

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| FLOUR.....                  | 2½ lbs.,   |
| RICE.....                   | 5 oz. (discontinued since about 4 weeks back)  |
| SUGAR.....                  | 5 oz.  |
| SWEET OIL.....              | 2½ oz.   |
| POTATOES.....               | 10 oz. (discontinued since about 6 weeks back)   |
| MEAT.....                   | 4 oz. (discontinued from last week)  |
| SWEET POTATOES OR CARROTS   | 8 oz. only for children from 1 year to 11 years. per soul per week. Now discontinued since about 10 weeks. |
| APPLES OR ORANGES.....      | 2 pcs., - ditto -  |
| Condensed Milk (14 oz. tin) | 1 tin. - ditto -.  |

The above ration is scarcely enough for 2 or 3 days.  
continued sheet No.2.,



52/163

5. REHABILITATION LOAN:- When Mr. Viteles was here it was arranged and agreed that the Joint grant a long term loan of about £20000 to about 54 merchants who were listed as 'most needy'. (not counting many smaller merchants and traders who lost everything but were not included in the said list). Up-to-now the said loan was not distributed. This delay put us to the greatest inconvenience. It is now nearly seven (7) months since that unfortunate incident took place. During all this period almost all the affected merchants and traders been sitting idle. Firstly we have no means of re-starting our business. Secondly, our shops are situated in the heart of Arab locality/ies and almost our entire business connections are with the Arabs. To go to those localities are not so safe as it may seem to you. Therefore, we feel ourselves bound to confine ourselves to our locality without either. This idle sitting resulted to great suffering and hardship to our families. It made us morally and physically sick. The moral of the community is already shaken and are now in a very desperate position. Had the proposed loan been distributed in time, it would have given moral support and relief to the sufferers. We could have started some form of business although on small scale in our locality, long ago. We are sure that our Arab clients would have come to buy from us if but we started.

6. In view of what we state above the proposed loan is of utmost importance to us all. Therefore, the more it be delayed the greater shall be our suffering. It worths if it be given when it is actually needed and that is now. Under these circumstances, in order to alleviate our present critical position, we appeal to you to inform Mr. Viteles of the urgency of the situation and to request him to expedite the question of rehabilitation loan.

7. RECONSTRUCTION:- Already before the riots there was ~~was~~ acute shortage of houses. December riots came and added more fuel to the fire. Many Jewish buildings were set on fire and completely destroyed. The occupants of these houses had to be absorbed in the already congested houses. Two or three families live in one room. The worst of it is during these summer months. As a result many are being put to sickness. Something must be done now before the worst of it overtakes the community - God forbids.

8. When Mr. Viteles was here he proposed to re-construct some of the houses which were slightly destroyed. We understand repairs were proposed to be from £200 to £3000. All in all, it is understood the sum of £10000 was to be set aside for this. Up-to this moment nothing was done. Reconstruction is of vital importance. Steps must be taken now before it is too late.

9. We need hardly add that in our long history, we the Jews of Aden proper, never looked for any outside help. We were always self supporting. It was only those unfortunate three days of December 1947 which makes us appeal to you and to the Jewish world for assistance. Of those three wretched days, we the Jews of



521764

Aden give that moaning of JOB chapter 3 verse 4-9 :-

4. LET THOSE DAYS BE DARKNESS: LET NOT GOD REGARD THEM FROM ABOVE, NEITHER LET THE LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.
5. LET DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH STAIN THEM: LET A CLOUD DWELL UPON THEM. LET THE BLACKNESS OF THE DAY TERRIFY THEM.
6. AS FOR THOSE NIGHTS, LET DARKNESS SIEZE UPON THEM: LET THEM NOT BE JOINED UNTO THE DAYS OF THE YEAR, LET THEM NOT COME INTO THE NUMBER OF THE MONTHS.
7. LO, LET THOSE NIGHTS BE ~~SEKKE~~ SOLITARY, LET NO JOYFUL VOICE COME THEREIN.
8. LET THEM CURSE THEM THAT CURSE THE DAY, WHO ARE READY TO RAISE UP THEIR MOURNING.
9. LET THE STARS OF THE TWILIGHT THEREOF BE DARK: LET THEM LOOK FOR LIGHT, BUT HAVE NONE: NEITHER LET THEM SEE THE DAWNING OF THE DAY.
10. In short, the situation here calls for immediate action. The more it is delayed the greater shall be our suffering. To acquaint yourselves of our exact position, you are recommended to consult, Mr. A. S. Diamond, who recently been in Aden. We are sure, Mr. Diamond shall be too glad to give you a clear picture of everything.

In conclusion, we have every reason to believe that our above appeal shall receive your sympathetic consideration and you would take the necessary steps for our relief and rehabilitation. For which we thank you in advance,

With Zion Greeting, we humbly subscribe ourselves,

JUDAH SALEM, M. J. Joseph.

Sincerely yours,  
M. S. YESHOOA,

*Judah Salem* *M. J. Joseph*

*M. S. Yeshooa*

Tallab Awad Cohen, Ahron Salem Tobi Cohen, Judah J. Joseph.

*Tallab Awad Cohen*

*Ahron S. T. Cohen*

*J. J. Joseph*

Copy forwarded for information to:-

The Chairman, Jewish Emergency Committee, Aden.  
The Board of Deputies, London, Mr. A. S. Diamond, London,  
The Anglo Jewish Association, London, Mr. Moses M. Banin, London,  
Mr. Harry Vitelis, Tel-Aviv, World Jewish Congress, New-York,  
Joint Distribution Committee, New York, Mr. M. Bentob Messa, N.Y.  
Joseph Howard, New York.,



# SHIP LETTER TELEGRAM

52/65

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS

Fold here

| Time received | From | By  | Ship of Origin |
|---------------|------|-----|----------------|
| 2359          | GSMP | EMW | ESPERANCE BAY  |

| No. | Words | Date    | Time | Service Instructions |
|-----|-------|---------|------|----------------------|
| 4   | 46    | 21 JUNE |      | via Portishead Radio |

SLT

BENTWICH  
7 ENDSLEIGH PLACE  
LONDON WC 1

Fold here

BANIN ADEN URGENTLY NEEDS MONEY  
PROMISED BY CEEBEEF JOINT STOP  
OFFICIAL ASSISTANCE REDUCED MANY  
FACING STARVATION OUTSIDE HELP  
ESSENTIAL STOP ADMINISTRATOR ARRIVING  
TOMORROW STOP HAVE INTERVIEWED CHIEF  
SECRETARY STOP JOINT AT CAMP APPARENT-  
LY NOT HELPING IN TOWN LETTER FOLLOWS

= HENRIQUES +++++



22.June 1948.

SS ESPERANCE BAY RED SEA.

52/16

Dear Norman,

I have just sent off a cable to you about the present situation at ADEN. Unfortunately we were only in port for a few hours and so I could not see the outlying district nor the camp. I spent all the time with Banin and the chief Secretary. The latter was very sympathetic and frank and a good deal more forthcoming than many an official I have come across elsewhere. The salient points were those I mentioned in my cable, namely that the ration of relief food given by the authorities is now so drastically cut, and there are no funds to supplement the food that they are facing starvation.

I will give you the gist of the two talks while they are fresh in my mind, although this cannot be posted till we get to Suez. In the main they tally.

Interview with Mr. Banin.

He was at the Secretariat when I arrived. He had just been elected to the Legislative Council to represent the Jews. He was delighted to see us and was full of praise of all that Mr. Bentwich had tried to do for them.

He is very grateful and pins his hope on what the Jews from outside will do to help them.

The situation, he says, is as follows:

There are no more active demonstrations or riots now, but individual Jews do get attacked and will not go up the road to the Jewish Cemetery on foot for fear of being attacked. They are still on tenterhooks as to what may yet happen.

Since the British Police have been brought in from Palestine the active hostility has died down.

When the Arab Police were called in to help during the riots, they merely sided with the Arabs and shot down the Jews as they fled from their burning houses.

700 Jews from the northern suburb are still in the Camp together with the Yemenite Jews in transit. They were put there by the authorities for protection and do not want to go back to their suburb even if it were repaired as they get better food in the Camp from the A.J.D.C. than they would if they were to go back on to the relief ration.

The Jews in Creta are in a terrible state. So many of the homes are destroyed that the overcrowding in the remaining few is shocking. Shops are all looted and are closed indefinitely. Jews who have shops in the Arab Bazaar do not open at all, for fear of being looted. They hope to put their shops into the Jewish streets when these are rebuilt...

This means that the majority of people are workless as well as foodless.

The vote of money by the Authorities for the purpose of paying for a basic ration of food has been cut several times. At present it amounts to four pence a day. This will not keep the people in health and they are clamouring for food. He, Banin, is at his wits' ends to know how to feed them, and has himself already spent 20,000 rs apart from footing many day to day expenses. He lost 60,000 rs by looting. The Jews are so frantic that they nearly attacked him at the last meeting because he had nothing to give them.



52/167

Neither the 90,000 dols. promised by the A.J.D.C. nor the £4000 promised by the C.B.F. have yet materialised. Balin is rather bitter about this, and says that if the Jews abroad will insist on sending money via A.J.D.C. instead of sending it direct to the Emergency Committee, of which he is the chairman, there will be indefinite delay in receiving the money for allocation and speedy distribution.

I asked him

1. Whether the A.J.D.C. in the Camp also helped in the town. He replied that they did not, but that the 700 Jews in the camp were receiving food with the others in the camp.

2. Whether he thought that the moneys that have been promised are in the hands of the Joint at the camp and that they are either holding them up till the Administrator arrives or else are using them for the Camps.

He replied that he did not know. All he knew was that he himself had not received anything to distribute to the starving in the town ....

He felt that the Camp administration was mainly interested in the Camp affairs especially on the health side, and although he was delighted that this was so, it did not help him with his hungry and desperate folk.

#### COMPENSATION.

He said that so far people on the whole had not received compensation for losses, although a Magistrate had been appointed to receive claims, and a few very small preliminary sums had been paid. But as these sums were so very small, about £20.0.0. they were quite useless as a form of capital wherewith to rebuild or restock a shop or workshop, and they had merely served to provide the recipient with a little extra food for a few weeks. Without large scale grants and help from outside, it would be impossible to put the people back on their feet again.

#### SCHOOLING.

He said he particularly wanted Mr. Bentwich to know that the schooling is proceeding well and smoothly. Although the two schools have not yet been rebuilt, they have the temporary use of a school for the girls, and are using it for boys as well, in spite of the objections of the owner. The new Head Teacher from Palestine is a huge success. This was really the only bit of good news he had to tell, and he repeated over and over again that I was to be sure and tell you.

As regards the rebuilding of the two gutted schools, he said that they first applied to have a grant towards rebuilding the Boys' school. The Authorities thought that as the Girls' premises were less damaged they should be done first, and promised 50% towards the cost. The Jewish Committee accepted and then changed their mind and thought that after all they would prefer to do the Boys, as they had the temporary use of the other house for girls. They told this to the Education Officer who said they must re-apply. This they have done.

#### TRADE.

Some of the traders in the Crescent had reopened their stores. They felt safe in doing this as they were in the midst of the English H.Q. and felt that the Arabs would not dare to loot them there. But they are only a small proportion of the people and they are most of them better off and so able to help themselves with extra food. Trade in the other two Jewish quarters was quite at a standstill and the people were chafing at the enforced idleness and getting out of temper with him and the Emergency Committee.



CRETA.

We drove through the quarter. Streets A1, A2, A3, A4 (the Jewish Streets) were wired off with "knife rest" barricades. These had been put there by the Authorities during the riots and were left there and closed nightly by the British Police at the request of the Jews who felt more secure so. The people are still in fear of further riots, and they were hanging about the streets in clusters or sitting dejectedly in the ruins of their houses just doing nothing. It was a dreadful sight and put me in mind of Belsen in 1945 just after liberation .. The double tragedy here is that unless large sums of money are quickly forthcoming so that the work of re-establishment can be started, these able-bodied people will degenerate and go to pieces in their hopelessness.

OFFICIALS.

Banin says that he blames the former Chief Secretary for not having taken notice of the repeated warnings that were given him of the pending riots. He, Banin had been told that he (the former Chief Secretary)resented the messages of warning". Banin says that if the Palestine Police had been brought on the scene at the time of these warnings, the riots would never have taken place, or at any rate they would have been thwarted before they got out of hand.

He says that the present Chief Secretary is sympathetic and helpful as far as he is able to be, but his powers are not unlimited. He puts the case for the Jews fairly. Banin says he stands very well with him. He also says that the Governor is a good man, but that he had bad underlings who did not put the real facts of the situation before him in time. It was madness to use the Arab Police to help stop the riots, as they simply collaborated with the rioters.

ADMINISTRATOR.

Banin says that he is deeply grateful for all Mr. Bentwich did to get permission for an administrator to be allowed to come, he is arriving today and Banin is eagerly looking forward to his arrival and hopes that he will be easy to work with.

He says that the Community is most eager to be able to back the work and that they fervently hope that the Administrator will be able to get the promised moneys and distribute them.

He, Banin, wants to come to England if the Administrator proved to be a success, he wants to visit his brother in London, but will not leave until the new man has found his feet and he is satisfied that he has the work well in hand, and is able to cope with the situation.

I feel sure that our visit cheered him up a bit, he is very desperate and at the end of his tether. The word "Shalom" is indeed a wonderful talisman. We shook hands all round on leaving, from the Boss to the shop boy and the various patriarchs that were employed in the store.

The driver who took us to see the Creta quarter was the same one that drove you on your tour and he asked to be remembered to you, he says you are a "very fine gentleman".

INTERVIEW WITH THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

Although I had intended to see the Governor, not only to pay my "duty call", but to talk over the situation from the Jewish point of view, I found, in talking to the Chief Secretary, that he was so helpful and really tried to give me all the information he could, that I decided to spend the short time at my disposal with him, rather than waste some of it in going over the same ground again.



52/169

By way of introduction I said that I had called at your request to hear how things were since you left. I explained my connection with C.B.F. J.C.R.A. and A.J.A., so he opened out.

He was very affable and showed me the various Jewish Centres on the map and said that since you were there things had quietened down greatly. The grant for food to the Jews has had to be cut, mainly because of the difficulty in passing the grants through the Committee, on which there is a large Arab representative and only a small Jewish one, although the Arab element did agree that something had to be done. The Committee consists of 3 Arabs, 1 Jew and the British Representatives, also 1 Indian.

There has been a Magistrate appointed to receive claims in respect of destroyed property and looted property. He has filed the claims which seem to amount to about £375,000. He has made a few selected small grants on account, for example to enable a seamstress to get another sewing machine, but these claims are not being universally settled yet, and he owned that in some cases, the people could be understood if they had used the money for food.

He said that some grants for as much as £90.0.0. had been made. This does not quite tally with Banin's amount. It was owing to these grants that the money allocated for food ration had been cut, in order to pacify the Arab element.

He agreed that the official food allowance barely sufficed to keep life maintained, and said that outside help from the wealthier Jewish Communities was essential.

He said the Authorities had no legal responsibility for compensation, but were willing to do something. He nearly said "moral responsibility", but changed his mind about that, and agreed that part of the burden ought to be borne by the Authorities and that the matter was even now being discussed at high levels.

He described the situation as to work in a similar manner to Banin. He stressed the fact that the Jews were eager to take themselves off public relief as soon as possible, and to that end the preliminary grants had been given.

He owned that the present housing situation is appalling, and always has been, and that trade, except for the stores in the Crescent was at a standstill. He said that the fact that the Aden Jews, on the whole, did not have a European standard, but approximated more to the Arab population, made negotiations with them very difficult and that they lacked proper leadership and representation.

I asked him whether he thought Banin to be an honest and reliable man. He said yes, he did and that Banin was doing all he could but that he needed a trained administrator to help him with his huge task, administering the funds and acting as the representative.

He looked up the file to see when the new man was expected and found that he was to arrive today. He repeated several times that outside help is needed and stressed the difficulty with the Arab element on the Committee regarding the continuance of grants for relief.

As regards the schools, the Authorities would give 50% of the cost of rebuilding of one of the schools. The first application had been for the Boys' school, but the Authorities thought that as there was less to do in the Girls' school that one should be done first, and they gave the grant accordingly. The Jewish Committee accepted this but have since changed their mind and want to do the Boys school. They have been told to make a fresh application. This Banin has done. He said that there was no further trouble expected from the Arabs, but, on the other hand "one never knew where one was". He felt that the presence of the Palestine Police would do much to maintain order.



I felt that, however limited has been and is likely to be the amount of official help given, that this man was out to do all he could to help and to try and alleviate the situation.

Of course so much depends on the personality and methods of the new Administrator. He will be a very potent factor in the deliberations as go-between with the British officials and the Community.

If he is a very un-English type, it will be a thousand pities, because it is just that knowledge that Banin lacks that makes it all the harder for him to put his case well, although, as I have said, Thomas had a high opinion of him as a man.

I think that in fairness to the Chief Secretary, this conversation should be considered as "off the record". He granted me the interview without any previous appointment and was most helpful.

-----

Unless the sums of money for the present need for food are forthcoming at once, I do not see that the new Administrator can do very much to help the situation in any practical way. I was going to telephone to the Doctor at the Camp and have a word with him, but there was no time.

Please excuse this badly written manuscript, but I have borrowed a type writer from a passenger, and am doing this on my knee in, what is, to you probably no novelty, - the Red Sea in June.

Camp near Suez - EL SHATT.

A notice has just been posted in the ship saying that there will be no shore leave in Egypt, so it looks as if I shall not be able to make any enquiries there as we shall not be allowed to land.

I had mentioned the place to Banin, but he had no information to give me.

With many greetings,

Yours sincerely,

(signed) ROSE L. HENRIQUES.

NOTE OMITTED FROM THE TALK WITH THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

Jews in the Camp

They had been put there for their own protection and were not being returned to their suburb yet as the authorities were not convinced that it would be a wise step yet.

Since writing the above, I find that SHRUBB of the Education Department, Aden, is on board. We had a chat and he said that the new Head Teacher was not going to stop. That he had walked into his office and said so. I asked whether this had been an official resignation, and he said that he thought that it was, but did not want to be quoted as saying so. Certainly Banin did not give me the impression that he knew anything about it, as he was bubbling over with enthusiasm for the new teacher and felt that now educational matters were on a safe footing.

He thought that the Jewish Committee was very stupid to want to rebuild the Boys' school first and there was far less to do in the other. He hopes to see you when he gets to London.

He also felt that Banin was straight but that he was not a leader, & felt that the expected Administrator would be a godsend.



Mr. N. Bentwich  
From: Mr. H. Viteles

Aden Community - Education

Confirming our conversation in my office on the 27th inst.

1. Girls School

(a) I have been advised by Mr. Selim Messah, who built the girls school for the Aden community, that he has given instructions to rebuild the school at his own expense and does not wish assistance from Government or any other source.

(b) Mr. Messah has not yet given his consent that the girls school, when completed, should be used in the afternoon for boys. I have asked Mr. Betensky to press the Chief Rabbinate, in accordance with their promise to me when I was in Aden, to ask Mr. Messah's permission to use the girls school also for boys in the afternoon.

(c) After I am absolutely certain that Mr. Messah will rebuild the girls school at his own expense and will not require the assistance which Government has promised and which I understand is £ 2,500, and the assistance from the C.B.F. of £ 4,200, then I recommend the following:

(i) that you should request the Government and the C.B.F. that their participation should be used for the reconstruction of the boys school, if Mr. Messah will not agree that the girls school should be used also for boys;

(ii) Should Mr. Messah agree to the above, then I would like the £ 2,500 promised by Government and the £ 4,200 voted by the C.B.F. to be made available for a general educational program for boys, girls and adults. The program would be agreed upon by all parties concerned.

2. Boys School

(a) It is probable that the Benin family, who built the boys school, will make available £ 4,500 towards the rebuilding of that school.

(b) If the Government's and/or the C.B.F.'s participation of £ 2,500 and £ 4,200 respectively will not be required for the girls school, would they agree that this should be used for the reconstruction of the boys school, particularly if Mr. Messah will not agree that the girls school should be used also for boys.

(c) Should the amount required for the reconstruction of the boys school be less than £ 11,200 - namely Benin Family £ 4,500, C.B.F. £ 4,200, and Government £ 2,500 - then the difference between £ 11,200 and the cost of rebuilding the boys school should be used for a general educational program.

CC - AJJDC Paris  
AJJDC Jerusalem  
HV/HN

H.V.



27th June, 1948

521172

To: Mr. N. Bentwich  
From: Mr. H. Viteles

This morning I handed to you copies of the following letters:-

Our T23/1224 of 6.6.48  
" T23/1225 of 7.6.48, with enclosures  
" T23/1233 of 11.6.48, " "

2. I advised you that the Jewish Emergency Committee, contrary to their written undertaking, now refuse to participate with 25% of the cost of supplementary relief and to contribute the £ 500 towards the medical program and £ 200 towards the educational program. They have asked that the £ 700 should be deducted from the £ 14,000 which the J.D.C. has approved for reconstruction and/or housing loans.

3. I am of the opinion that we should refuse to grant supplementary relief unless the Jewish Emergency Committee keeps its undertaking to provide 25% of the cost which, even under the present conditions, could be collected without any difficulty from the local Jews. I also am in favour of threatening to discontinue the health and educational services unless the Aden community keep their promise and make available in cash the £ 700 which they promised for these services.

4. I suggested that the C.B.F. and the J.D.C. together should discuss this question and cable their decision.

H.V. 0

CC - AJJDC Paris (with copy of T23/1224 of 6.6.48)  
AJDC Jerusalem

HV/HN



52/173

# Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad

(FINANCED BY THE CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF AND REHABILITATION)

TELEPHONE:  
EUSTON 7418/9.

TELEGRAMS :  
INLAND-"JACRA WESTCENT LONDON."  
OVERSEAS-"JACRA LONDON."

7, ENDSLEIGH PLACE,  
TAVITON STREET,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

ACJ/PC

2nd July, 1948.

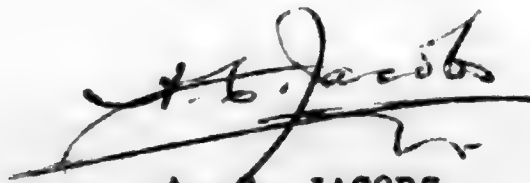
C. Kapralik, Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
London, W. C. 1.

Dear Mr. Kapralik,

Before Professor Bentwich went to Palestine he told me that he was expecting a letter from Mrs. Henriques from Aden, and asked me to open it and to pass it to you for perusal.

I shall be glad if you will return it to me in due course.

Yours sincerely,

  
A. C. JACOBS  
General Secretary



52174

5th July, 1948

MS/AC

Dear Capt. Jacobs,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, together with the enclosure from Mrs. Henriques. I will let you have it back if you want it, but it really should be on our files. However, if I am having some copies made I will send you one.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Capt. A. Jacobs.  
Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad.  
7, Endleigh Place,  
London, W.C.1.



3-1175

BENIN INNOVATION STORES ADEN

INFORMED GRANT CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR RELIEF HELD UP BECAUSE  
EMERGENCY COMMITTEE DEFAULTED UNDERTAKING CONTRIBUTE QUARTER STOP  
GRANTS FOR MEDICAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES SUSPENDED BECAUSE  
COMMITTEES DEFAULT PROMISED CONTRIBUTIONS STOP URGE COMMITTEES  
IMMEDIATE COMPLIANCE THEIR UNDERTAKINGS STOP CABLE ACTION

Bentwich, Migrate, Lond<sub>on</sub>.



received 6.7.1948.

52/176

Extract of cable from Mr. Shargo, A.J.D.C. Paris Office:-

Ask Stephany remit Bank of India account Olga Feinberg £2,050 our account this bringing to £3,550 our debts Stephany stop Viteles asking CBF remittance Dr. Abu~~ak~~ak National Bank of India £2,100 June budget suggest Stephany remits directly.



52/117  
51, MARESFIELD GARDENS,  
LONDON, N.W.3.

HAMPSTEAD 4201.

11 July 1948.

Dear Stephany,

M. S. Yeshood & the other  
signatories of the letter of the 20<sup>th</sup>  
June from Aden send me a copy  
also. You will see that the letter  
sets out the same attitude that  
I took in my report to you when  
I came back from Aden. M. S.  
Yeshood and some of the other  
signatories are well-known to  
me. They are not, I think, all  
members of the Jewish Emergency  
Committee. Yeshood certainly is,  
and I have no doubt he is the



521  
best man in the Adels Jewish  
Committee, and the most fitted  
to be its leader.

I should be glad to know  
whether there is any news,  
since I spoke to you last,  
as to what is being done for  
them. Kind regards

Yours sincerely

S. Diamond



521178

NB/SK.

12th July, 1948.

Dear Mr. Benin,

I have just returned from a short visit to Palestine, where I saw Mr. Viteles and heard about the latest troubles in the Aden Community. On my return I have seen Mrs. Henriques, who gave me a very clear account, and also delivered the present that you had so kindly sent. Many thanks for that from my wife and myself.

I am very worried about the position, both as regards the relief measures and the schools and medical programme. I sent you to-day a cable about these things on behalf of the Central British Fund. It is deplorable that the Jewish Community in Aden should not receive the help which has been promised, because of the failure of the Emergency Committee to carry out its undertakings. You will remember that I was with you when the undertaking was given to provide the £500 towards the doctor's salary and the £200 towards the salary of the Headmaster. I feel sure that you will use all your influence and authority to make the Committee do its duty.

Mr. Viteles told me of the new proposals about the rebuilding of the schools. If Mr. Messa does carry out his offer to rebuild the girls' school at his own expense, I shall do my best to persuade the Central British Fund to let their grant be used for the rebuilding of the boys' school, and I should hope that the Government would also let their grant be used for that purpose.

It is now nearly eight months since the riots, and it is high time that one school, anyhow, was rebuilt, and you should make sure that Mr. Messa is going to provide the money at once. Mr. Viteles said that Mr. Messa was now unwilling that his school should be used temporarily for the education of the boys as well as the girls; but that, I think, is not justified, because his Trustee, which I examined with the Haham, said expressly that the/

*1 dead*



52/179

school was founded for the education of boys and girls, and he is not entitled now to change the Trust. It is also very unfortunate that when the Government has agreed to pay half the cost of repair of the girls' school, the Jewish Community has not taken advantage of it and gone ahead with the repair.

I heard from Mr. Viteles also about the difficulty with the Administrator sent by the Joint. I am trying to find somebody here in England who might be willing to come out as Administrator if Mr. Betenkin refuses to stay.

I have spoken to-day with Sir Bernard Reilly, who is dealing in the Colonial Office with the report of the Commissioner on the riots. He tells me that the cause of the delay in publishing the report is that the Air Ministry, as well as the Colonial Office, are concerned, and there are difficult questions about the future of the Security Forces. He hoped that the report would be published in about a month. There are difficult questions also about the payment of compensation, which has to be approved by the Legislative Council of Aden; but he hoped that that question also would be settled fairly soon.

I was glad to hear from him that there is now a British Force of the R.A.F. Regiment in Aden, and also that a number of British police have been appointed to the Aden Police. The important thing is to get ahead with the reconstruction programme, and the J.D.C. will not do that until the Community has carried out its undertakings, so I cannot urge you too strongly to see that that is done forthwith.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Benin,  
Innovation Stores,  
ADEN.  
-----



521 180  
**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

**EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL**

TELEPHONE

87-83

INVALIDES } 87-55

79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS

JOINTFUND-PARIS

ACCOUNTING GENERAL LETTER N° 604

July 12th, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

Referring to your letter of June 28th, please be informed that we have instructed Mr. Saly Mayer in St Gall to pay to the Agudas Israel World Organization in Zurich

Swiss Francs: 60,000 (Sixty thousand)

However, we would like to stress the fact that our remittance to Dr. Abuisak of

L 2,050 (Two thousand and fifty)

requires clarification.

We hope to see you in Paris in a few days, and to come to a final conclusion with regard to the above mentioned item.

Sincerely yours,

  
S. SHARGO

SS/RS

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compania Unida Reconstruccion Ayuda, Mexico, and others



52/181

MS/AC

15th July, 1948

Dear Mr. Shargo,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, reference Accounting General Letter No.604, from which I note that you have instructed Mr. Saly Mayer in St. Gall to pay to the Agudas Israel World Organization in Zurich, the sum of 60,000 (sixty thousand) Swiss Francs.

Please accept our very best thanks for your help in this matter.

With regard to the £2,050 (two thousand and fifty pounds) remitted to Dr. Abuisak at Aden, I hope to write you further regarding this in the course of the next few days. In the meantime, I understood from Mr. Beckelman that you had made the remittance which you asked us to make to Dr. Fineberg, so this side of the matter is apparently in order for the time being. I hope, however, to deal with the whole question of the Aden finances when I receive a reply to a letter and cablegram which has been sent to Mr. Bannin during the last few days.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S. Shargo, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee.  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7e),  
France.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

521182

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
87-83  
INVALIDES 87-35  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

Paris letter # .

July 18th, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

You will recall that on numerous occasions in the past we have discussed, both personally and by telephone, the relief and rehabilitation program in the Jewish Community of Aden. You were good enough to inform me that the Central British Fund had made an appropriation of £9400 for the above purposes, and you stated that you would be ready to make that money available for the carrying out of the program as outlined by Mr. Viteles.

For your information, we have, up to now, transmitted to Dr. Joseph Abuisak and to Mr. Betansky in Aden, the sum of £4150, of which £2050 was remitted on May 10th, 1948 and £2100 on July 12th.

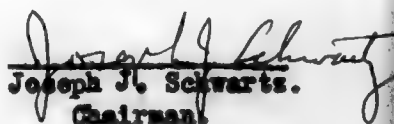
We are now advised that Mr. Betansky will probably be able to stay on in Aden for a period of three months but no longer, so that, in the meantime, we plan to continue to make our remittances to Mr. Betansky and his colleague, Dr. Abuisak.

In view of the appropriations which you have made, we would ask you whether you wish to reimburse our office in London with the £4150 which we have already spent, or whether you would wish us rather to continue to transmit funds until the full amount of your appropriation has been met, and to reimburse us at that time. We shall, of course, be glad to keep you advised of all remittances made to Aden.

I should appreciate your advice in the above matter.

Sincerely yours,

JJS/fhl.

  
Joseph J. Schwartz.  
Chairman.



52/183

MS/AC

21st July, 1948

Dear Mr. Diamond,

I duly received your letter of the 11th instant and note what you write with regard to Aden.

We are in close communication with the American Joint Distribution Committee with regard to the situation there and will see that everything possible is done to alleviate the plight of the people. Unfortunately, the Administrator whom the Joint engaged is not remaining and we are trying to find somebody who could be sent out to take on the job.

I note what you write with regard to Mr. Yeshooa. Do you think that he would be better than Mr. Banin as the Leader of the Jewish Emergency Committee?

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.S. Diamond, Esq.,  
51, Maresfield Gardens,  
London, N.W.3.



521184

21st July, 1948.

Dear Bentwich

I promised you this morning to telegraph to the Governor of Aden about the question you raised about Yemeni Jews in the camp there. I am writing to let you know that, in view of the length of my message, I thought it better to send it by air-mail; but this should not delay the Governor's reply by more than a few days.

Yr sincerely,  
J.M. Martin

(J.M. Martin)

Professor Norman Bentwich, OBE., MC.



52/185

TELEPHONE  
CENTRAL 6202.

TELEGRAMS  
72 T. PLE.

3, TEMPLE GARDENS,

TEMPLE, E.C. 4.

22 July 1948.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Thank you for your letter of yesterday in regard to Aden. I am sorry to hear that the Administrator is not staying in Aden.

With regard to Mr. Yeshooa, while I have no doubt he would make a better leader than Mr. Banner, there are at least two reasons which make it more or less impossible for Yeshooa to take his place.



52/186

The first is that Bannin has recently been appointed a member of the Legislative Council as representing the Jews of Aden (in place of a man called Yehudah who left after the riots). The second is that Jewish communities do not always want the best man as their leader, and Bannin (partly because of his prestige as the owner of one of the largest and most prosperous Jewish businesses in Aden) is the man they have chosen. It is because



52/184

TELEPHONE: CENTRAL 1700.  
TELEGRAMS: 72 TEMPLE.

3, TEMPLE GARDENS,  
TEMPLE, E.C.4.

They chose him as leader. That  
the Governor put him on the  
Council.

Yours sincerely

J. S. Hammond



52/188

MB/A

July 23rd, 1948.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
Hollycot,  
Vale of Health, N.W.3.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

We have to-day received a further cable from Mr. Viteles from Tel-Aviv for transmission to you, and upon being informed that you will be in Geneva till Monday, trust that this letter will reach you soonest after your return.

Herewith copy of the cable:

"TRANSMIT BENTWICH FOLLOWING CABLES FROM FEINBERG  
RECEIVED SIXTH QUOTE INMATES SPIRITS LOW PRECLUDING  
MAINTENANCE DISCIPLINE CULMINATING TODAY OPEN REVOLT  
WITH SMALLSCALE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY AND ENDANGERING  
OUR SAFETY STOP THEY DEMAND QUICK DEPARTURE STOP IF  
DEMANDS NOT MET CONSEQUENCES INCALCULABLE STOP UNQUOTE  
NINETEENTH QUOTE SITUATION NOW WORST THAN EVER AUTHORITIES  
REFRAIN INTERVENTION CAMP MUST BE CLOSED BY YOU UNQUOTE  
PRESSING GOVERNMENT APPROVE IMMEDIATELY CERTIFICATES ALL  
INMATES STOP IF TRANSPORTATION VIA SUEZ CANAL UNAUTHORIZED  
COST AIRPASSAGES ESTIMATED SEVEN-HUNDRED-THOUSAND DOLLARS  
WHICH UNOBTAINABLE." "VITELES".

Yours sincerely,

*W.S.*

Margot Srebny,  
Assistant Secretary  
London Office.



Lt Col R. Prof. Bentwich

52/189

F  
Aden

NB/AG

27th July, 1948.

My dear Martin,

[Lt directed] I write to confirm the message which I gave you yesterday over the telephone about the trouble in the camp of the Yemenites at Aden. Mr. Viteles of the Medical Joint *America* Distribution Committee sent me two cables received from Dr. Feinberg who is the doctor of the camp. The first received on the 6th of July, said that there was an open revolt of the inmates with some destruction of property and danger to her safety and that of her assistants. They demand quick departure. If the demands are not met the consequences are incalculable. - The second cable received on the 19th, said the situation was now worse and the authorities refrained from intervention. - Viteles was pressing the Government of Israel to approve immigration certificates to Palestine for all the inmates of the camp. We had a message, too, from Mr. Passman, a member of the Joint, who came recently from Palestine to Paris, that the Joint were anxious *note* to move immediately all the 4,000 persons in the camp if the permit to transport them through the Canal could be obtained.

This last development just gives added urgency to the matter. I asked you if you received any information from Aden or if you had any other communication to make after Friday of this week, to send it to Mr. M. Stephany, the secretary of the Central British Fund, Woburn House, W.C.1.



J.M. Martin, Esq., C.B.,  
Colonial Office,  
Whitehall 1,  
S.W.1.

NORMAN BENTWICH



52/90

MS/AC

28th July, 1948

Dear Mr. Diamond,

I thank you for your letter of the 22nd instant.

I am glad to say that the Administrator sent by the Joint will remain there for two or three months so the position may clarify a little by then. In the meantime, votes are being sent forward and I hope that the Emergency Committee will now be able to do something to relieve the situation.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.S. Diamond, Esq.,  
3, Temple Gardens,  
Temple, E.C.4.



MS/AC

28th July, 1948

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

Re: Aden

I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, from which I note that in addition to the £2,050 remitted by you to Dr. Joseph Abuisak in May last, you have also remitted the sum of £2,100 to that gentleman on the 12th instant.

I understand that these remittances are on account of the vote of £9,400 which the Council of the Central British Fund has already made for the assistance of the Jews in Aden and I should esteem it a very great favour if you would kindly let me know for which of the purposes covered by our grant, the £4,150 has been used. The Council of the Central British Fund is anxious to have this information and I shall be glad to hear from you in this connection as soon as ever possible.

In the meantime, I am arranging for a remittance for £4,150 to be paid to your London Office in accordance with the suggestion made by Mr. Beckelman last week.

Looking forward to hearing from you as soon as ever possible,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz.  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E).



5-192

MS/AC

28th July, 1948

The American Joint Distribution Committee,  
199, Piccadilly,  
London, W.1.

Dear Sirs,

I have to-day arranged to credit to your account at the Westminster Bank, Tavistock Square, the sum of £4,150, being in repayment of sums remitted by your Paris Office to Aden for our account.

Yours truly,

Secretary.



22/193

# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

RECEIVED PARTICULARS

AX4

*us.*  
*10/10*

**VIA IMPERIAL**

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.

ISSUING OFFICE

NO. 57

27546

SENT OUT

BY

**CW DNSA603/H0265 ADEN 12 1 2236 =**

**LC MIGRATE LONDON =**

**BETENSKY ADMINISTRATOR FAILING US**

**AIRMAILING EXPLANATIONS = JEWISH**

**EMERGENCY COMMITTEE +**



521 194

CK/SK.

3rd August, 1948.

Dear Mr. Katzki,

We write with reference to our telephone conversation to-day, in which we informed you that we received the following cablegram from the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden:-

"BETENSKY ADMINISTRATOR FAILING US  
AIRMAILING EXPLANATIONS."

We understand that you received the same cablegram from them, and we shall be glad if you will go into the matter after having received their air mail letter.. and inform us about the position.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Herbert Katzki, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
PARIS 7e.



Aden, July 5th 1948

52/195

Mr. Leon Betensky,  
Administrator,  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,  
Aden

Dear Mr. Betensky,

The Jewish Emergency Committee, which came into existence as a result of the pogroms of December 1947 have been dealing with all matters arising out of the pogroms, security, distribution of rations, compensation, education, hospital etc., The Committee are recognised by the Government as the representative of the Community in these matters.

As the result of the reduction of the amount of Relief by the Government, the Committee had to curtail the number of people receiving rations. This has naturally aroused the resentment of some of the people affected, with the result that disruptive elements amongst the community have taken advantage of this discontent and are trying to fish in troubled waters. Advantage has been taken of your ignorance of the community by reason of your being a new comer, these malcontents appear to have succeeded in obtaining your blessings to their disruptive tactics. For instance, one of their leaders who has been disqualified from the dole by reason of his self-sufficiency was the first to get his rations last Thursday, when the key of the store was taken from us.

On being told that his name was not on the ration list, this gentleman tore the list, which had taken a long and arduous time to prepare.

We are endeavouring to ensure the fair distribution of the rations without fear or favour, although the task requires the wisdom of Solomon and the patience of Job. In times of strain and stress and unemployment, it is easy to exploit the masses by mischievous propaganda & false hopes.

We tried to explain the situation to you, when a number of our members met you on the 1st instant, but these gentlemen were snuffed with the excuse that you were very busy to hear them and they had to leave you place without giving you a true picture of the state of things.

We wish to cooperate with you and render you every assistance in the same way as we did with Mr. Viteles, Mr. Janner, Mr. Diamond and Professor Bentwich, but the taking over of the key of the store from the JEC., and handing it over to irresponsible persons, not to say the worse, is not only unjustified on any grounds, but has tended to impair the efficiency and smooth work of the Committee to the detriment of the community at large.

In promoting the peace and harmony of our community we are quite prepared to accept constructive advice and suggestions from all and sundry, but we cannot remain unconcerned or look in silence upon any action detrimental to the interests of our community.

As arranged, from non-members are cooperating with the Committee in revising the list of rations in the light of present circumstances.

In the meantime, we await your reaction to our letter, so that we can carry out our work without let or hindrance as before.

Sincerely yours,  
for the JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

AHROHAR SOLOMON  
ACTING CHAIRMAN.



52' 196

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Tel-Aviv, 9th April, 1948.

Ref.T23/1125

Jewish Emergency Committee,  
A D E N .

Gentlemen,

This is to introduce Mr. Menahem Monish Berger, whom the AJDC has appointed as Headmaster of the Boys School. Mr. Berger, like all other AJDC Staff, is directly responsible and will report to the AJDC. But Mr. Berger will discuss with your Committee and the School Committee all of the plans and work and he counts on your close cooperation which will be forthcoming.

(2) In making this appointment and agreeing to pay Mr. Berger's salary, the AJDC wishes it to be clearly understood that it does not assume any financial or other responsibility for the school. The AJDC and Mr. Berger will not deal with such questions as the salaries of the other teachers, the collection of schoolfees or with any other financial questions. Mr. Berger will deal only with educational and general administrative problems and report directly to the AJDC.

(3) In addition to the LP 200 which you agreed to contribute towards the cost of the educational program for the year ending 31.3.49, you agreed to provide gratis for Mr. Berger suitable living quarters and service. Mr. Berger will not accept any compensation of any kind from you, the pupils or any other source.

We are sure that given the necessary cooperation, Mr. Berger can contribute much in improving the standards of the school.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Harry Viteles.

CC AJDC Jerusalem  
Dr. Magnes  
Mr. Berger.

HV/hn.



52/197

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
PROGRAM FOR ADEN COMMUNITY

CRATER, ADEN

13th July, 1948.

My dear Mr. Ahronov:-

I received today a cable from Mr. Viteles in which he states in part as follows:-

" ... UNLESS COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTS PROMISED  
CONTRIBUTION RECOMMENDING DISCONTINUANCE  
ACTIVITIES INCLUDING LOANS:... "

This means that the Jewish community of Crater must decide whether it wants the A.J.J.D.C. PROGRAM to continue. If the Jewish Community of Crater wants this program to continue, it must do its share. The Jewish Community of Crater must:-

1. Pay to me the promised Pounds 500 for the Hospital.
2. Pay to me the promised Pounds 200. for the School, or have Mr. S. Menahem tell me that I do not have to pay back the 2,650 Rs. loan he gave for the School.
3. Agree in writing to make a one-fourth contribution to relief before I am asked to give the AJJDC share. This payment to be made to me.

I urge you to take a serious view of this matter. I require an answer in writing by Sunday 18 July.

Cordially,

SD LEON BETENSKY

ADMINISTRATOR  
PROGRAM FOR ADEN COMMUNITY



C O P Y

52/198  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE  
ADEN

18th July, 1948

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 13th July, 1948, we wish to refer you to A.J.J.D.C. letter No. T23/1128 dated Tel Aviv 9th April, 1948, in which the matter of £500 and £200 our participation towards the Medical and Educational programmes, have been deposited of. We refer you to paragraph 3 of the said letter for its terms:-

"Para. 3. If you have not already deposited your participation of LP.500 towards the costs of the medical programme and LP.200 towards the costs of educational programme, we will deduct the LP.700 from the LP.14000 which the A.J.J.D.C. has approved for reconstruction loans."

In view of the above, we fail to understand the attitude of Mr. Viteles in continuing to defer the carrying out of the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes. These delaying tactics are doing good to nobody, because, if the sufferers were given the loans, they might have been enabled to fend for themselves and this would have reduced the number of people depending for relief.

Almost all the members of the Jewish Emergency Committee, as you know, belong to the working class and have no funds to contribute.

When the promises were made it was hoped that circumstances would improve and the community would recover from their catastrophe soon, but unfortunately these hopes have been disappointed and as you yourself see, most of the members of the Jewish Community are out of work.

Moreover, the Rs.30,000 out of which we proposed to utilise for paying the LP 700 were paid directly by the donors to Mr. Viteles. When we made the promises of £700 we were relying on these funds.

In any event, the Jewish Community of Aden are in no position to comply with the conditions enumerated in your letter under reply, because of their poverty and enforced idleness, and there is no justification on any ground to withhold the immediate execution of the relief and reconstruction programme, as further procrastination is aggravating the misery and plight of the Jewish Community, which you have been sent to relieve.

The poor should on no account be penalised on any ground as the hungry cannot wait.

The Jewish Community is now hard put to raising funds to buy an ambulance to convey the dead to the Cemetery as it is no longer safe to carry the dead on human shoulders as before.

As regards the Rs.2650 we refer you to the minutes of the proceedings of the Jewish Emergency Committee of 28th April 1948.

We regret that we cannot afford to contribute one-fourth towards the cost of the weekly relief as we are not in possession of funds.



52/199

Our inability to comply with your request should be considered a "force majeure" and constitute no justification for the suspension of the Relief and Rehabilitation programmes.

Yours cordially,

AD/ AHRONEN SOLOMON

Acting Chairman,  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,  
ADEN

The Administrator,  
The A.J.J.D.C.  
Aden

P.S.

We wish to add that the following gentlemen contributed the following sums, but they insisted that these monies should be granted to persons earmarked by them and in spite of all our efforts, we have not been able to persuade them to reverse their decision.

|    |                       |           |
|----|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Mr. Banin Salem Ishaq | Rs.10,000 |
| 2  | Mr. Sadak Menahem     | Rs. 3,000 |
| 3  | Mr. Isaac S. Isaacs   | Rs. 1,500 |



Aden, 27th July, 1948.

52/200

The Administrator,  
A.J.J.D.C., ADEN.

Dear Sir,

We beg to invite your attention to the A.J.J.D.C. letter No. T23/1125 dated 9th April, 1948, which states that Mr. Menahem Berger, whom the A.J.J.D.C. has appointed as Headmaster of the Boys School, will discuss with your committee and the School Committee of the plans and work and he counts on your co-operation which will be forthcoming. The A.J.J.D.C. and Mr. Berger will not deal with such questions as the salaries of the other teachers, the collection of school fees or any other financial questions. Mr. Berger will deal only with the educational and general administrative problems. We wish to inform you that under the above conditions the Jewish Emergency Committee accepted the appointment. The Jewish Emergency Committee contest the right of Mr. Berger to teach their girls as this is not in keeping with the principles of this Community and this place. As things are, Mr. Berger is devoting almost all the time to the teaching of the girls to the detriment of the teaching of the boys, for which he has been appointed as Headmaster. We refer to the interview which Mr. Ahronson and Mr. B.J. Yaish have had with you this evening, and in which they have implored you to use your good offices, as administrator, to stop Mr. Berger from taking their girls to the Hashed Camp. In view of the critical and grave situation that at present exists they have told you that the Superintendent of Police had asked them to take every possible care not to go to isolated places and not to flaunt in the streets to avoid to invite attack or cause provocation.

In asking you to help us out of the difficulty, you intimated us that if we persisted we would lose the contribution which the A.J.J.D.C. made to the Jewish Community of Aden. We consider the modesty and discipline of girlhood and the security of the Jewish Community as a whole, as above any monetary or material consideration, and we are quite at a loss to understand that a man of your position should use your undue influence against us in order that we should submit to an action which we heartily condemn and fear. We now wish you, as administrator, to stop Mr. Berger from teaching or dealing with our girls as this community is an oriental community and lives amongst an oriental people and they wish to adapt themselves to the conditions under which they are living, in order to live in peace especially in this critical and grave times, as the infernal memory of December 2nd 1947 still haunts them.

We fear that the action of Mr. Berger in taking our girls to Hashed Camp might precipitate incidents, the consequences of which we cannot contemplate. We therefore hold you and Mr. Berger responsible for the consequences which may arise through your arbitrary, high-handed and inadvisable action. It is very deplorable that while you have come here to help us out of our difficulties, we now notice that since you came so many difficulties are cropping up and to cap all, you are condeign an action which is fraught with danger.

It is really very interesting to know why, if Mr. Berger



52/201

has been sent as the Headmaster for the Boys School, he should neglect the teaching of our boys and devote himself with much avidity and devotion to the teaching of the girls. Mr. Berger had no right to close the school outside the days allowed by the curriculum as this is a Government-aided school and we consider his action as high-handed, arbitrary and contrary to discipline for no urgent reasons.

As you have informed us that Mr. Berger is leaving Aden during the month of August we do not see why you should back him to do a thing which exposes the whole community to danger, as one of the causes of the pogrom which was mentioned by the Arab press after the riots was the flaunting of Jewish girls, a fortiori in the present instance when they will be accompanied by a man who is well-known to have come from Wrota-Israel.

What right had Mr. Berger to tell the masters of the school that any teacher who did not obey his orders of going to Hushed Camp would run the risk of losing his job. For a Headmaster to use undue influence, coercion and duress and force the teachers to go to a place contrary to their better judgement and welfare, is not only misusing his position but is teaching the teachers doctrines which are entirely against the principles of education in general.

To place the girl teachers in a dilemma whether to obey Mr. Berger or their parents and their community and the male teachers in a quandary whether to obey their present Headmaster or the School Committee is in our opinion dictatorial and tormenting.

In putting all the facts before you, we trust that you will reconsider your decision in approving Mr. Berger's action and, as administrator, will restrain him from teaching girls, taking them to Hushed Camp and to close the school on days not permitted by the curriculum. Mr. Berger should restrict his teaching to the boys only in accordance with his appointment.

Yours faithfully,  
JEWISH RELIGIOUS COMMISSION,

Sd/- Ahronese Solomon,

As CHAIRMAN.



28th July 1948.  
Crater, Aden.

52/202

Mr. S. Ahronson,  
Acting Chairman,  
Jewish Emergency Committee,  
Aden.

My dear Mr. Ahronson.

I have before me the letter dated 27th July bearing your signature and purporting to be from the JEC.

I was not aware of any meeting of the JEC last night, and I am not able, therefore, to accept the letter as official.

Should you claim that the letter has the sanction of the JEC, please send me the minutes of the meeting of last night, which should list the names of the members present. I shall be glad to go over them.

Little need be said about the meeting with the Ration Committee, which should include the Opposition and the representatives of the Government, which took place on the evening of Sunday, 27th July.

Yours sincerely,

Cordially,  
d/- Leon Batensky,  
Administrator.

28 July, 1948.  
Crater, Aden.

My dear Mr. Ahronson,

I regret that I cannot accept as official the letters of 27 and 28 July which bear your signature.

These letters deal with a very important matter, a matter which has already been brought to the attention of the Government by persons unknown to me, and should be thought over very carefully before they were sent.

It is my impression that the letter of 27 July was written in the heat of anger by a few persons and as such does not represent the considered opinion of the JEC of Crater, Aden. The letter of 28 July appears to have been written by the same persons who have not yet cooled off.

I request, therefore, that you call a full meeting of the JEC in order that you decide whether or not to send ~~me~~ such letters. If you decide to send them, I shall need a copy of the minutes of the JEC, with the usual list of those who attended, who approved the letters.

I shall not accept sealed registered letters from the JEC. You may send letters to me as I send them to you, by messengers, without receipt.

Cordially,  
Leon Batensky,



521203

An extra-ordinary Meeting was held in Sukath Shalom premises at the urgent request of Mr. Betensky on Sunday, the 1st August, 1948 at 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT:

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mr. Ahronnee Solomon | 6. Mr. Mayor Ahronnee |
| 2 Mr. B.J. Yaish        | 7 " Moses M. Banin    |
| 3 " Awad Shmoel         | 8 " David Abraham     |
| 4. " Rahamim M. Howard  | 9 " Joseph Howard     |
| 5. " Shmoel Menahem     | 10 " Sholem S. Cohen. |

Mr. Betensky was called to the meeting at his request.

The Ag: Chairman Mr. Ahronnee Solomon took the Chair.

Mr. Betensky asked who was on the chair. Mr. Joseph Howard replied that Mr. Ahronnee was on the chair as he is the Chairman of the JEC. Mr. Betensky replied that if Mr. Ahronnee was on the Chair he would have no dealings with him and the JEC, and that the JEC should elect some one else. Mr. Joseph Howard replied that Mr. Ahronnee is the permanent Chairman of the JEC and there was no reason to elect another one.

Mr. Betensky then alleged that Mr. Ahronnee reported to the Police the trouble that arose out of the attempt of Mr. Berger with the agreement of Mr. Betensky to send a group of girls to Hashed Camp which attempt was frustrated by the parents and relatives of the girls. Mr. Ahronnee denied categorically any knowledge of the report of the Police and he remarked that Mr. Betensky had no right to make any accusation on mere conjuncture. Thereupon Mr. Betensky left the Meeting.

The Meeting was carried out in Betensky's absence and the following were resolved.

- (1) to send telegrams and letters to all Jewish organisations overseas reporting Betensky's hindering attitude towards the Aden Community.
- (2) Mr. Awad Shmoel will accompany Mr. Ahronnee Solomon to the Asst. Chief Secretary Mr. C. H. Newland on Monday, the 2nd August 1948.
- (3) Mr. Ahronnee and Mr. Awad Shmoel to collect from St. Point shops an amount of Rs.800/- to cover the one-fourth share of the Aden Community towards ration for the week ending 7th August, 1948.

Mr. B.J. Yaish proposed Mr. Sholem Joseph to be a member of the Jewish Emergency Committee with effect from 1st August, 1948 and it was accepted by a majority of votes.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*



50/207

**JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE**  
Section A, Street No.1  
Camp Aden.

4th August, 1948.

The Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1

Dear Sir,

We confirm having sent you the following cable on the  
1st August 1948 reading:-

**"BATEMSKY ADMINISTRATOR FAILING US AIRMAILING  
EXPLANATIONS"**

Being aggrieved and dis-satisfied with the activities  
of the Administrator, who we understand was sent to Aden to  
carry out the relief, rehabilitation and re-construction  
programmes of the Central British Fund and the Joint Distribution  
Committee, we beg to put our grievances before you for the  
following amongst other reasons:-

1. Before the arrival of the Administrator, Dr. Abusak was  
Acting Administrator and we got with him very satisfactorily.

2. The present Administrator arrived in Aden on or about  
21st June 1948 and his first action was to exploit the so-called  
grievances of persons, who were excluded from the dole by reason  
of the reduction of the amount of relief by the Government. The  
keys of the ration stores were taken from us and attempts were  
made to put these people in our place for the distribution of the  
rations for reasons unknown to us. The Administrator went so far  
as to ask us verbally to resign in order to give way to these  
people to take the place of the Jewish Emergency Committee. This  
Gilbertian situation created dissension amongst the Community  
but his plan was foiled when his disruptive intentions were  
realised by all and sundry. In an interview with him, he told  
our Mr. Ahronson and Mr. Yaish that the Jewish Emergency Committee  
should get dissolved in favour of the malcontents whom he called  
the Opposition. In the interests of our Community we refused to  
give way. We enclose a copy of a letter dated 5th July 1948 which  
we wrote to him on the subject.

3. On the 13th July 1948 we received a letter from the  
Administrator, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, informing us  
that he received a cable from Mr. Viteles reading:-

**"UNLESS COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTS PROMISED CONTRIBUTION  
RECOMMENDING DISCONTINUANCE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING LOANS"**

You will notice that Mr. Viteles left the matter to his  
discretion as he did not enjoin but recommended. We replied as  
follows:-

"In reply to your letter of the 13th July, 1948, we wish  
to refer you to A.J.J.D.C. letter No.T23/1128 dated  
Tel-Aviv 9th April 1948 in which the matter of £500  
and £200, our participation towards the medical and  
educational programmes, has been disposed of. We refer  
to paragraph 3 of the said letter for its terms.

"Para. 3. If you have not already deposited your  
participation of LP800 towards the cost of the medical  
programme and LP200 towards the cost of the educational  
programme, we will deduct LP700 from the LP14,000 which  
the A.J.J.D.C. has approved for reconstruction loans."

Moreover it was pointed out to him that we made the above  
promises on the strength of the Rs.30,000 contributed by our  
Aden people, which would have come to our hands, but which were



paid direct to Mr. Vitales. We have no more funds out of which to pay the above amounts, as the members of the Jewish Emergency Committee are working people serving the Community voluntarily and without remuneration. We further pointed out that it is neither justice nor expediency to penalise the hungry and destitute on the above grounds and that his delaying tactics were only aggravating the plight of the sufferers while the moneys that had been sent for relief are being frittered away in administration and other expenses. We enclose a copy of our letter to the Administrator dated 18th July, 1948 for your information.

About the 1st of May Mr. M.M. Berger, whom the A.J.J.D.C., appointed as Headmaster of the Boys' School, arrived in Aden. We enclose a copy of the letter of his appointment dated 9th April, 1948, reference T23/1125. Mr. Berger, as a special case, on his request, was allowed to teach four girls as teachers. He was allowed to do so provided the teaching will take place in a room attached to the Beth-Din. In the course of time Mr. Berger was gradually noticed abandoning the teaching of the boys and devoting himself to the teaching of the girls. Although this was resented, no action could be taken to restrain him as the letter of appointment stipulates that Mr. Berger, like all other A.J.J.D.C. staff, is directly responsible and will report to the A.J.J.D.C. On the 13th July, 1948, Mr. Berger closed the school without the knowledge of the Committee and took the girls to Hashed Camp. In the middle of the road the car sustained a breakdown in the desert on the way back to Crater at night time. Luckily there was no incident. On the 27th July, 1948 the Committee was informed secretly that Mr. Berger had ordered the closing of the school on the 28th July and ordered a number of girls and the teachers of the boys school to accompany him to Hashed Camp on pain of dismissal of any teacher failed to do so. This was done in spite of the warning of the police that movements of Jewish girls from Crater to Hashed should be restricted in view of the present state of hostilities existing in Eretz Israel.

Mr. Ahronson, the Acting Chairman, and Mr. Yaish on hearing of this, at once approached the Administrator and implored him to use his good offices to the end that the contemplated trip be stopped. The Administrator agreed to take up the matter with Mr. Berger. On the second interview the Administrator told the interviewers that the excursions will not be stopped on any ground. All reasoning and arguing, about the danger to the Community as a whole of such trips involving as it does a number of girls, attired in coloured dresses and accompanied by a stout man who is well known to have come from Eretz Israel, proved of no avail. Even the exhortation of Beth-Din and the importunities of the leaders of the Community were flouted.

It was pointed out to the Administrator that a contemplated trip to Hashed of Jewish girls arranged by Obadya in the month of May was stopped by the relatives of the girls by force, as a result of which a scene was created, and the incident came to the notice of the Authorities. Thereupon the managers of the Hashed Camp and members of the Jewish Emergency Committee were advised in their interest to refrain from such gyrations and were warned of the provocation and consequent dangers of such trips. Mr. Berger who was then in Aden, cannot claim ignorance of that warning. It was further pointed out to the Administrator that sporadic assaults and stoning of Jews by crowds of Arabs continue in spite of the vigilance and watchfulness of the Police. Seeing that verbal reasoning had no effect, the Jewish Emergency Committee put all their reasoning in a letter dated 27th July, 1948 addressed to the Administrator, a copy of which is enclosed. It is regrettable that that letter was not listened to and was returned to us twice though it was explained to him verbally in a J.E.C. Committee held the next day that the letter was official. Our letter to him arguing him to accept it and his reply to it are also enclosed.

The girls were told to keep the journey as a 'top secret' and most of them sneaked out of their houses without the knowledge of their parents. They all assembled at the house of



the Headmaster. Mr. Berger and the Administrator tried to stand by and ward off any attempt by their kith and kin to persuade the girls not to undertake such a dangerous journey. The parents and relatives of the girls however succeeded in forcing their girls to go back to their houses, as a result of which scenes were created which attracted the notice of the Police. Thereupon the Schelichim of Aden and Hashed Camp and members of the J.E.C. were called and were given a second warning.

It was further pointed out to the Administrator and the J.E.C. that should, God forbid, a pogrom occur as a result of his action, Government will not be responsible as it is clearly stated in Section 16 of the Police Ordinance that the victims should be free from blame, and that in view of the repeated warnings of the Police, this action amounts to provocation. We pointed out that Aden does not enjoy the same facilities as Eretz-Israel. There is no scope for girls to be too free, as there are no sea shores and there are no gardens in Aden for merry-making and revelry. In any event the time was most unpropitious, not to speak of danger. It is further detrimental to the discipline and modesty of our girls to be divided between two loyalties - loyalty to their parents and loyalty to their teachers. Owing to their peculiar positions, teachers, specially of physical stoutness, are able to exercise such a controlling influence over their students of the weak sex, who, in their mental fascination, become obtuse to all presence of risk and danger.

We consider that such type of education will produce a generation which will be a curse and a source of danger to this community, because when girls get out of control it is very difficult to reclaim them. In spite of all our protests the teacher continues to have a mysterious power over our girls and we are unable to control them. We love education as much as any community in the world but we cannot let our girlhood be dechristianized with ideas which in the long run will make them gall and wormwood to/us.

Although the Administrator arrived on the 21st June 1948, the ground has been already prepared by Dr. Abuiskak. No action to give effect to the programmes of rehabilitation and reconstruction has, so far to our knowledge, been taken; and as the days go, the plight of our brethren goes from bad to worse. This will be more felt in the course of a few days, as we understand the Government has stopped paying relief.

The present condition of most of the members of the Community is almost desperate and Mr. Betensky insists on the J.E.C. paying one quarter, in order that he should pay the remainder three quarters for relief. The J.E.C. managed after a very great difficulty to contribute one quarter thereto but cannot continue to do so as it is not possible to draw money from an impoverished community. On the other hand the Government has stopped giving relief from the 1st of August, 1948. The alternative may well be death by starvation. There is every cause for exasperation of knowing that means for amelioration lie so near at hand and that the lack of them is almost wholly due to red tape and bureaucratic inertia. It is very tantalising to know that means for relief do exist but they are being withheld by Fabian tactics. As you know, people may be able to stand any calamity but that of starvation.

At the request of the Administrator a meeting was held on the 1st August 1948. As usual Mr. Ahrenes, the Acting Chairman, took the Chair. Mr. Betensky went out of his way and declared that he would not attend a meeting presided over by Mr. Ahrenes. Asked for the reason of such an egregious attitude, he accused Mr. Ahrenes of reporting to the Police about the attempted journey to Hashed Camp. Mr. Ahrenes assured Mr. Betensky that he did not report the matter to the Police, thereupon Mr. Betensky left the meeting and threatened to have no dealings with the Committee so long as Mr. Ahrenes remains the Chairman. A copy of the minutes of this meeting is herewith enclosed. The Committee do not see its way to commit such a



52/207

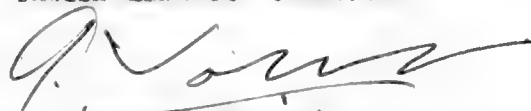
shameful action of complying with the egregious order of Mr. Betensky without rhyme or reason.

As things are, we are not aware what steps the Administrator is taking to put the programmes of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into effect as he is trying to fight shy of us. In our attempt to find out what he is doing for our community we are met with snubs. Being a new man in Aden and therefore ignorant of local conditions, we are anxious to co-operate and collaborate with him in the interest of our community but he tries to pick quarrels with us in order to keep us at a distance. For instance we understand that he has briefed a lawyer to draft bonds for rehabilitation and reconstruction. Had he consulted us we would have drafted these bonds without remuneration as members of our Community are conversant in this branch of the Law or we would have taken him to the proper solicitor. In preparing the bonds without consulting us we may be faced up with conditions so severe and prohibitive that they would be unacceptable to the beneficiaries, and in order to reverse these bonds to meet the circumstances and conditions of the sufferers, we may have a hard nut to crack; and time which is the essence of relief will run before we shall come to an agreement; and while this agreement is reached the sufferers must starve.

Further, while the suffering people of Aden have almost exhausted all their reserves and they are on the verge of starvation they are being given no hope or prospect when the long awaited programme of rehabilitation loans would materialise. Had the programmes been put into effect four months ago the people would have been helped to stand on their feet and manage to maintain themselves and eventually become independent.

In view of the long lapse of time and the terrible plight of the poor of our community, it is requested that action be taken to the end that the sufferings under which thousands of our brethren are being weighed down, may be terminated by speedy succour and the Administrator may be directed to carry out the programmes of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction without further procrastination.

Yours faithfully,  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE



(Ahronne Solomon)  
Acting Chairman

BJY/DA



COPY

52/208

CABLE DATED 6.8.48 FROM PROFESSOR N.BENTWICH  
TO MR. J.M.MARTIN, MIDDLE EAST DEPT.,  
COLONIAL OFFICE.

HAVE MET PASSMAN OF JOINT IN  
AUSTRIA HE REPORTS SITUATION ADEN GRAVE  
HOPE YOU CAN COMMUNICATE STEPHANY PROSPECTS  
EVACUATION HOLE FOUR THOUSAND OR PART.



21209

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

199, PICCADILLY,  
LONDON, W.1.  
ENGLAND

MS/B

August 10th, 1948.

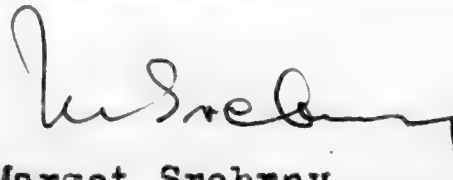
Miss Goldberg,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.

Dear Miss Goldberg,

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of this morning, I enclose herewith copy of a letter received this morning from Mr. Viteles in Tel-Aviv on the Aden Camp negotiations.

I hope you will be able to give this matter your kind attention in the absence of Professor Bentwich and Mr. Stephany.

Yours sincerely,



Margot Srebrny  
Assist. Secretary.

Enc.



A.J.D.C.  
P.O.B.221,  
Tel-Aviv.

52/210

August 2nd, 1948.

Ref: 51/4/528.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
c/o A.J.D.C.  
199, Piccadilly,  
London W.1.

Dear Norman,

On the first instant I received your letter of the 21st ultimo unsigned; I have given a copy to Dr. Schwartz who is now in the country, and I am also sending a copy of the letter to Mr. Shertok.

2. When I was in Aden last January, the Governor was anxious that we should clear the camp as soon as possible. Subject to transportation being available the Government is prepared to approve enough certificates to clear the Camp which has about 4,000 inmates. If the Egyptian Government can be persuaded to guarantee the safe passage of all the 4,000 through the Suez Canal, we will be glad to make the necessary transport arrangements. At all events I hope you will obtain permission for at least 2,000. You will recall that according to the census made during the course of my visit to Aden, about half of the total population of the Camp are within the age group of 14 and less. Therefore should the Egyptian Government insist that men of military age should not be included within the 2,000 it will not be difficult to comply with this condition, except the Yemenites being what they are, they might not agree to a separation of families.

3. Since the Foreign Office is contacting the Governor, I consider it best not to make any direct representations, at least for the present.

4. It will still be necessary for me, or somebody from the JDC to go to Aden to complete negotiations and arrangements and all details.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ HARRY VITELES

HV:LLF  
cc: Mr. Shertok,  
Dr. Schwartz.



52/201

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

TELEPHONE

87-83

INVALIDES 87-55

79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS

JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting General Letter #662.

August 10th, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Your letter dated July 28th, concerning the C.B.F. Appropriation for Aden has been referred to this Department for reply.

The amount of £4,150 referred to in your letter was remitted by us to Aden at the request of Mr. Harry Viteles and was to be used against the appropriation of £9,400 made by the Council of the Central British Fund for the assistance of the Jews in Aden.

In view of the fact that up to date we have not received any report from Aden accounting for the above amount, it is impossible for us at the present time to give you an indication of the purposes for which the £4,150 were used. We are now contacting Dr. Abuisak and as soon as we receive a report from him we shall immediately forward it to you.

At the same time, we should like to inform you that we have been advised by Mr. Viteles that the July budget for Aden has been set to £1800 for the Aden community and, since these funds were urgently needed, he provided this amount from the funds which we transmitted for our program in the Yemenite Camp. Will you please, therefore, reimburse our London office for this amount as well.

Yours sincerely,

AB/rhl.  
cc. AJDC, London.

  
Alexander Berkowitz.

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compaña Unida Reconstrucción Ayuda, Mexico, and others.



78009/3/48.

13th August, 1948.

Dear Mr Stephany,

As you know, Professor Bentwich consulted me about the position of the Yemeni Jews now in Hashed Camp at Aden and asked me in his absence to inform you of the outcome of a communication on this subject which I undertook to address to the Governor of Aden.

A full report on the subject has not yet been received from the Governor, but in the meantime he has telegraphed certain information in reply to a telegram sent him on receipt of the enclosed cable from Professor Bentwich. The Governor states that there is no cause for alarm. The condition of the Jews in the Camp remains unchanged. Some trouble has lately been caused inside the Camp by about 15 Jews, and the latter are being charged in the Colony Courts with assault and mischief on complaints lodged by the Camp authorities. Otherwise the position is stated to be unchanged.

I shall, of course, communicate with Professor Bentwich or yourself again on hearing further from the Governor.

Yours sincerely,

J.M. Martin

(J.M. Martin)

Myer Stephany, Esq., F.L.A.A.



52/213

15th August, 1948.

IP/FW

Dear Mrs. Hoffman,

Further to your letter of the 10th instant regarding the situation in Aden, I am enclosing herewith two copies of a letter which we have today received from the Colonial Office in this connection, and should be glad if you would pass one of these copies on to Mr. Viteles. Any further information we receive will, of course, be passed on to you.

Yours sincerely,

for Secretary.

Mrs. R. Hoffman,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
199, Piccadilly,  
London, W.1.



£

16th August, 1948.

IP/FW

J.M. Martin, Esq.,  
Colonial Office,  
Church House,  
Great Smith Street,  
S. W. 1.

Dear Sir,

I am acknowledging receipt of your letter of the 13th instant addressed to Mr. Stephany who is at present on holiday and thank you for the information contained therein. Your letter will be placed before Mr. Stephany immediately upon his return at the end of this month.

Yours faithfully,



52/25

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

199, PICCADILLY,  
LONDON, W.1.  
ENGLAND

MS/B6.

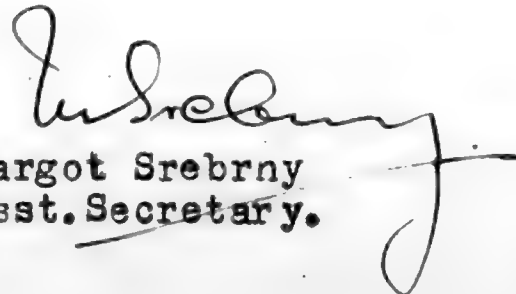
August 17th, 1948.

M. Stephany Esq.  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Thank you for your letter of August 15th which enclosed copies of a letter you received from Mr. Martin of the Colonial Office regarding the situation in Aden. Copy of this correspondence has to-day been forwarded to Mr. Viteles in Tel-Aviv.

Yours sincerely,

  
Margot Srebrny  
Asst. Secretary.



52/216

Addressed to ATDL.

COPY

Received August 18, 1948

33 YOUR SIXTYFIVE BETENSKYS ACTION FULLY JUSTIFIED BECAUSE COMMITTEE  
UNREPRESENTATIVE UNRELIABLE FAILED KEEP PROMISES SUBMITTED UNFOUNDED  
REPORT ABOUT CAMP AND ADEN STAFF BENTWICH CAN CONFIRM

VITELES



55/217

CK/LP

18th August, 1948.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

I am enclosing herewith, for your information, copy of a letter dated the 4th instant, received from the Jewish Emergency Committee, Aden, and enclosures thereto.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
c/o Hebrew University,  
Palestine House,  
Manchester Square, W.1.

for Secretary.



CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF AND REHABILITATION.

GRANTS MADE IN RESPECT OF ADEN.

|           |                             | <u>TOTAL GRANTS</u> | <u>EX earmarked FUNDS</u> |
|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 31.12.47. | For General Relief Purposes | 23,000.             |                           |
| 10. 3.48. | -do- -do- -do-              | 6,000.              | 21,000. ICA.              |
| " " "     | For Medical Expenses        | 1,200.              | 21,000. Anonymous         |
| " " "     | For Clothing                | 1,200.              |                           |
| " " "     | For Educational Expenses    | 500.                |                           |
| " " "     | -do- -do- Equipment         | 500.                |                           |

(Total amount voted on  
10.3.48 - 29,400.)

31. 5.48. For Repairs and Extension  
of Girls' School. 2,000. 2,000. ICA.

The following grants were made on account of the  
above grants:-

26.12.47. Through Messrs. Maude - 11, .  
28. 7.48. To the A.F.B. - 4,1 .  
-----  
-----

No details as to the use to which the above payments  
were put, have so far been received from the Joint.

Under the assumption that the above amounts were  
used for General Relief purposes it would appear  
that out of the total of 29,400. voted by the Council  
for General Relief, 23,900. is still free for this purpose.

18th August, 1948.



521219

CK/LP

19th August, 1948.

Dear Mr. Abramowitz,

You will recollect that at the end of July last, Mr. Stephany discussed with you the question of your going to Aden for a few months in order to supervise relief activities there.

Mr. Stephany, who is now on holiday in Ireland, 'phoned me today to contact you and enquire whether you have made any decision in the matter.

I shall be glad if you will be good enough to 'phone me so that I may pass on the information to Mr. Stephany.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



for Secretary.

S. Abramowitz, Esq.,  
46, Baffet Road,  
W.10.



4-12-2  
52/220  
IC/IP

20th August, 1948.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

With reference to our telephone conversation,  
I have pleasure in enclosing copy of the letter from the  
Colonial Office, dated the 13th instant.

*not recd. for filing*  
Yours sincerely,

for Secretary.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
c/o Hebrew University,  
Palestine House,  
Manchester Square, W.1.



JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,  
Section A, Street No.1  
CAMP ADEN

22nd August, 1948

The Administrator,  
A.J.J.D.C.  
Camp Aden

Dear Sir,

In accordance with a telegram received today from Mr. Schwartz, Joint Fund, Paris, we repeat our willingness and readiness to give you every co-operation in working out the difficult problems involved in bringing out the hoped-for improvements and for the immediate implementation of the relief and rehabilitation programmes. We hereby offer you our assistance in every way, shape and form in the consummation of the programmes of relief and rehabilitation. We are very sorry to hear from our member Meri Sholea Yeseeph who has approached you on our behalf for collaboration, that you cannot see your way to co-operate with the JEC. In spite of all our efforts to meet you we very much regret that, without these three members, the JEC cannot function and it will become a body without a soul.

We should like to receive your reasons for demanding the expulsion of these three members from the Jewish Emergency Committee, so that we can correct any wrong impression you may have about them.

As the consummation of the relief and rehabilitation programmes are of vital interest to our community we again offer you our co-operation and assistance. We shall be glad to receive your favourable reply at once, as there is no knot which reason and love cannot untie.

Should we not receive your reply by tomorrow noon, *Monday* Tuesday, the 23rd August, 1948, we shall take it for granted that your silence is a rejection of our offer of co-operation, collaboration and assistance in the execution of the programmes of the Joint Distribution Committee and Central British Fund.

By the way, we wish to inform you that the Jewish Community in Aden have importuned us to ~~benefit to the community~~ retain the services of Doctor Abusak, which have been of great benefit to the Community and it is earnestly pointed out that his departure will be a disaster to the Community. As you may have the interest of this community at heart, we request that you will not deprive the community of the multifarious benefits of this Doctor.

We suggest that a meeting of yourself and the Jewish Emergency Committee be held before the Chief Rabbinate so that all so called differences be thrashed out and settled once for all, in the interests of peace and harmony and our suffering community.

We trust that better counsel will prevail and await your favourable reply with interest.

Yours faithfully,  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

BJY/DA

Acting Chairman.



52/222  
CK/LP •

25th August, 1948.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

With reference to our telephone conversation, I have pleasure in enclosing copy of a telegram received by the office of the Joint in Paris, on the 18th instant.

Yours sincerely,

Professor N. Bentwich,  
Friends of Hebrew University,  
Palestine House,  
Manchester Square, W.1.

for Secretary.



25th August, 1948. 521/223

NOTE ON CONVERSATION WITH MR. KATZKI  
ABOUT ADEN.

Mr. Katzki explained that a good deal of the difficulties encountered in Aden were due, not only to the backwardness of the Community and the incompetence of its leaders, but also to the fact that Dr. Abuissak, who arrived there in April and was acting as Administrator, was reluctant to hand over to Mr. <sup>Betensky</sup> Berger after the latter's arrival in Aden. This resulted in friction and in consequence the Joint recalled Dr. Abuissak who will leave Aden within the next few days.

Partly due to this disagreement and partly to the difficult postal communications between Aden and Palestine, where Mr. Viteles, who is responsible for the work in Aden, resides, it was up to now impossible for the Joint to obtain reports on how the funds remitted by them <sup>and</sup> to us, were used. ~~On this connection the Emergency Committee has received a telegram received from the Emergency Committee dated the 18th instant, attached herewith (Copy has been sent to Professor Bentwich).~~ It has now been arranged that Mr. Betensky will send copies of his reports to Paris as letters posted in Aden arrive in Paris earlier than in Tel-Aviv.

I discussed with Mr. Katzki the letter received from the Emergency Committee dated the 4th instant and told him that while fully appreciating the particular difficulties with which everybody working in Aden were faced, some difficulties may have arisen through <sup>a</sup> the certain reformatory zeal of Mr. Berger whom Mr. Betensky <sup>apparently</sup> ~~felt~~ should be backed up.

Mr. Katzki agreed that it can in no way be the task of a relief organisation to reform an oriental Jewish community and that this point will be made clear to Mr. Betensky. In this connection he gave me a copy of a telegram received from the <sup>Viteles</sup> ~~Emergency Committee~~ dated the 18th instant, attached herewith. (Copy has been sent to Professor Bentwich)



52/224

- 2 -

I finally told Mr. Katzki that before remitting the requested £1,800, we shall have to submit to the Council some details regarding the allocation of £4,150 already remitted and the £1,800 now requested.

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Telephone : REGENT 4944-5

52/225

**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

MS/A/D/

**199, PICCADILLY,  
LONDON, W.1.  
ENGLAND**

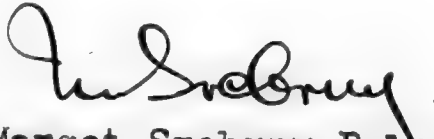
August 27th, 1948.

M. Stephany Esq,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

In order to keep you up to date on the situation regarding Aden Camp, I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter we have sent to Mr. Viteles to-day, giving details of a telephone conversation we have had with Mr. N. Bentwich to-day on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

  
Margot Srebrny Pelt

Enc.



MS/A/D

August 27th, 1948.

To: A.J.D.C.Tel-Aviv. Mr. Harry Viteles.  
From: A.J.D.C.London.  
Re: Aden Camp.

Further to our correspondence and cables regarding the above camp, Mr. Norman Bentwich telephoned us this morning, and I give you below the gist of the conversation:-

"Mr. Bentwich saw Officials of the Colonial Office in London. He was informed that reports they have received from the Governor of Aden are not favourable to the <sup>immigration</sup> migration scheme. The Colonial Office have written again to the Governor, asking for further information and consideration of this matter. The Colonial Office have consulted the Foreign Office regarding permission from the Egyptian authorities for passage through Suez, but the Foreign Office is not very hopeful in view of the Arab refugee question - they feel Egypt will not even consider the matter at present. Mr. Bentwich is calling again at the Colonial Office the second week in September, when, they hoped, further communication will have been received from the Governor in Aden.

Mr. Bentwich also mentioned the expulsion from the Aden Camp of some 'trouble-makers', and it is hoped that Dr. Feinberg will change her mind and accept them into the camp again, as it appears to be most unwise to take them back to Yemen."

Kind regards,

cc: Mr. Bentwich,



*Aden file*  
27th August, 1948.

*from Prof. Benturich*

52/227  
Palestine House,  
Manchester Square,  
W. 1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I have read the letter of the 4th August from the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden to the Central British Fund, and I am distressed about the relations between the Committee and the Administrator of the J.D.C. I have the impression that the matter has not been well handled by the Administrator. His letters to the Committee are written in so hostile a spirit that they were bound to provoke resentment. I know Mr. Ahronnee Solomon, and saw a lot of him during my month in Aden. He was then the Principal Assistant of Mr. Diamond in the preparation of the Jewish claims for compensation. He is naturally a gentle and reasonable person, and would not, I feel sure, have been antagonised if the Administrator had shown any tact.

It is not clear to me why Mr. S. Benin no longer appears in the negotiations with the Joint. Has he resigned the Chairmanship of the Jewish Emergency Committee, and if so, why? or was he on holiday, or away from Aden at the time?

Anyhow, it would seem to me that the urgent matter is to get ahead with the reconstruction programme, and not to find all the reasons for holding up payment of loans. I think the Central British Fund should be fully informed about the steps that have been taken to use the money which they have paid to the J.D.C. for relief and for the Schools. In the paragraph of the letter from Mr. Viteles, of the 9th April, about the deduction of £700 from the loan fund of the J.D.C., (which is referred to in the Committee's letter of the 18th July to the Administrator) it seems explicit. If I had been informed of it before, when the cable from Mr. Viteles recommending the Central British Fund not to let their grant be paid until the Community carried out its obligation to pay the £700, I should not have supported the advice of the J.D.C. in withholding the payment of the Central British Fund grants. I think



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-2-

that action should be revised immediately if the payment is being still withheld.

As to the complaints against the Head Teacher sent by the Joint, I think that insufficient regard has been paid by the Teacher and the Administrator to the sensibilities of the local Community about girls. Without accepting all the statements of the Committee, it does seem that the action of the Teacher in taking the girls from Crater to the Hashed Camp was imprudent, and was likely to arouse ~~the~~ antagonism. It must be remembered that the Aden Community has still very strict views about the girls' conduct. I should like to know what is happening about re-building the Schools, but there is nothing about that in the correspondence.

I am prepared to write to the Government Director of Education, Mr. Kynaston-Snell, who is a very understanding officer, and get his opinion about the Head Teacher, if that is desired.

Yours sincerely,

M. Stephany, Esq., F.L.A.A.,  
Secretary,  
Central British Fund for  
Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W. C. 1.

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621229  
AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

110, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
87-33  
87-55  
79-37  
INVALIDES  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

September 2, 1948

Mr. H. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Muburn House  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

For your information we give you below information from a report of Mr. Berger the teacher at Aden, which he submitted to Mr. Viteles and which we have just received from him.

"When I arrived at Aden I found the boys' school in an extremely poor state: seven grades together were being taught in one room and one corridor with only four teachers. My first step was to find separate rooms for each class. I eventually found two corridors for two classes, and for the third grade, I took over the club room. The remaining four classes are now housed together in the one room and corridor (mentioned above). Now a family has invaded these two corridors resulting in an interruption in teaching until such time as places can be found to continue classes. All my efforts to find a suitable housing for a school has been of no avail: the members of the committee of the Vaad Hachirum are disinterested and not cooperative at all in the problem of finding suitable school rooms. However, despite such obstacles I have been successful in obtaining a budget for two extra teachers, and together with the undersigned we are seven teachers. The number of students has risen from 70 to 180.

We have opened a Seminar for teachers (males and females). There are ten boys and 20 girls with lessons being conducted each day for two hours. Now it is our intention to enlarge classes and widen the scope of learning.

We have opened Grade "A" (boys and girls together). Grade "A" primary school lessons are in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Educational Department in Israel. This class is self-supporting as the students pay for their lessons.

I have become headmaster of the girls' school of Mrs. Miriam Yehuda and have graded the prospective students according to age. I have found additional teachers and now five classes are functioning; there are some 100 children attending these classes.

2/.....

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compana Unida Reconstruccion Ayuda, Mexico, and others



Central British Fund

September 2, 1948

The school for refugees is also under my jurisdiction - I have already managed to put this in some order.

For these two schools I pay (rent) rupees 250 monthly, commencing from May.

From May, the kindergarten has been opened which is self-supporting and will not require any donations from the community.

It can be seen that the budget which the Joint has allocated for furniture for the school will be sufficient to enable modern furniture being put in the whole school. But I must inform you regretfully that in the whole of Aden there is not one Jewish carpenter; thus the work had to be given to the only person in Aden who can make these things, and he is an Indian. As he has no help in this work, it is not proceeding quickly and till date he has not completed any furniture, but it is hoped that during the course of a month all the furniture in respect of all the classes will be finished.

As already remarked herebefore the Aden Community (Vaad Hachirim) are sadly disinterested and uncooperative in these education problems which confront us, and due to their indifference there have been essential small expenses (which are mentioned in the accounting report under the heading "Various") and are thus accounted for. However it would be much more advantageous if together with the amount of rupees 500 monthly that we receive for the upkeep of the refugees school and for that of Mrs. Miriam Yehuda, a sum of approximately rupees 70 for the "various" items mentioned above should be given.

In the financial report there is supporting evidence of a one-time grant made to the teachers. This one-time grant was considered as being absolutely imperative, as when I came to Aden the position of the teachers was extremely distressful - for many months they had not received any salaries, and in order to infuse some sort of interest in them, and have their full cooperation in this work it was considered as most important. Since that time the teachers have changed their attitude and become alive and interested in their work. I recommend an additional one-time grant of rupees 500.

The girls' school which I had intended to open in Mrs. Miriam Yehuda's school in the afternoons has not yet materialised to date due to the fact that there is no budget for this program. The Vaad Hakeela says they have no money for this purpose; the amount necessary is rupees 150 monthly.

The total amount required for furniture is approximately rupees 6000."

Mr. Viteles advises us that the furniture referred to in the report has been finished, delivered and paid for.



Central British Fund

September 2, 1948

Mr. Viteles makes the following additional comments concerning Mr. Berger's report:

"Mr. Betensky advises us that the cost of rebuilding the boys' school has been estimated at rupees 2/300,000. The Government has not yet agreed to participate in the cost of rebuilding this school. Should rupees 25,000 which Government has appropriated for the rebuilding of the girls' school not be required, since the donor of the girls' school has agreed to repair the building at his cost, then Government would agree to use this rupees 25,000 for rebuilding of the boys' school. We also have a promise of LP.4/5,000 or about rupees 55,000 from the Benir Family who built the boys' school.

We understand that the C.B.F. has appropriated about LP4,200 for the repair and expansion of the girls' school. We suggest that you ask the C.B.F. to agree to use this LP.4,200 towards the rebuilding of the boys' school. This LP.4,200 plus LP.4,000 which the Benin Family is prepared to appropriate plus LP.2,000 (rupees 25,000) which Government is prepared to appropriate makes a total of LP.10,200, or approximately half of the cost of rebuilding the school. If, and when the C.B.F. agrees to the above proposal, we would then try and raise another LP.8/10,000 from Government and other sources.

Together with our letter 51/2/1332 of the 24th instant we sent you details of Mr. Betensky's recommendations about an additional budget for education. If this additional LP.1500 is approved, the recommendations made in the final two paragraphs of Mr. Berger's report will be taken care of."

Merely to bring you entirely up to date we wish to advise you that Mr. Berger, since preparing his report, left Aden to go to the United States and Mr. Viteles is now seeking to recruit another teacher to take his place. As you probably know, Mr. Viteles has requested Dr. Abuisak to return to Israel as a step in solving the difficulties concerning administration about which you have heard. This will leave Mr. Betensky in charge and will eliminate the cross purposes which seem to exist as between Mr. Betensky and Dr. Abuisak. However, Mr. Betensky has been instructed to make every effort to reach a modus vivendi with the Jewish Emergency Committee now that Dr. Abuisak no longer is in Aden and the difficulties arising out of an attempted split in responsibility have been eliminated.

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*

Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

HK/fc



62/232

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

110, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
87-83  
INVALIDES 87-55  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

September 2, 1948

Mr. J. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Mobern House  
Upper Mobern Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We learn from Mr. Viteles that you as well as ourselves, were greatly disturbed about the reports which had come from Aden regarding disturbances which took place at the Hashed camp late in July. We understand that the Colonial Office had made enquiry in your behalf on the situation.

We have just received from Mr. Viteles in Tel Aviv copy of a report submitted to him by Dr. Feinberg of the Hashed camp. This report is dated 24th July and we are sending it to you in full for your confidential information.

In another letter which we have from Mr. Viteles he gave us the following text of a telegram which he received from Dr. Feinberg:

"OF SEVENTEEN ARRESTED TWO ARE POLICE CASES ARRESTED FOR INSULTING POLICE STOP FIFTEEN PARTICIPATED ILLEGAL KILLING COWS STOP BREAKING INTO STORES STOP CAME WITH STICKS AND STONE AND ATTEMPTED BREAK INTO OUR BUNGALOW STOP ARRESTS MADE GROUND DISTURBING PEACE AND BREAKING CAMP DISCIPLINE STOP AFTER MONTH IN JAIL COURT DECISION WAS GUILTY STOP FREED FIFTEEN ON SIX MONTHS PROBATION SUBJECT FORFEITURE FIVEHUNDRED RUPEES EACH STOP GOVERNOR DECIDED DEPORT FIFTEEN GROUND UNDESIRABLE FOR COLONY STOP FROM MY PART ALL DONE TO PREVENT DEPORTATIONS NO DECISION ON TWO POLICE CASES STOP HAPPY FOR CERTIFICATES HOPE THOSE FORCHILDREN".

We now learn that fourteen of the seventeen persons arrested have been permitted by Dr. Feinberg to return to the camp. We have asked Dr. Feinberg to do everything possible to prevent deportation back to the Yemen of the balance of the people involved in the disturbances. Government seems to be determined to take this action which, of course, we are anxious to avoid. This is being followed up in Aden.

Sincerely yours,  
*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

over/....

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compania Unida Reconstrucción Ayuda, Mexico, and others.



62/233

-2-

Mr. H. Stephany  
Central British Fund

September 2, 1948

P.S. For your information 2,000 visas for Israel have been made available for the Yemenite Jews in Aden to be used for orphans, children 17 years of age and under, women of all ages and men over 40 years of age in the order named. As you know, the implementation of the use of these visas is still dependent upon the technical question of transport, the problem of Suez transit facilities, or via the Cape versus air movement. This is still being followed up and we assume that Professor Bentwich is keeping after the matter with the Colonial Office.

HK/fc

Incl:



COPY

52/234

Translation Hebrew

11.7.1948

1. The Committee will be recognised after voting.
2. The Committee will appoint a court for the camp.
3. The court will deal with all matters between each individual of the camp.
4. The Committee will attend to water and sanitary matters.
5. The Committee will see that no illegal acts are performed in the camp.
6. The Committee will see to it that no fires are burned in the camp.
7. The Committee has permission to appoint a supervisor (controller) for the storehouse and slaughter-house.
8. Any steps taken by the committee must receive the consent of the Management of the camp who is responsible for same and representative of the Joint, and also that of the Authorities.

Dr. Olga Feinberg



52/238

COPY

Ref. 5111/1421

Dr. Olga Feinberg  
Hashed Camp  
24th July, 1948  
(51/5/1312/4)

Dear Mr. Viteles,

Subsequent to June's report and my cables about the disturbances in Hashed I herewith forward a detailed description of the last two weeks' happenings, which concluded by the arrest of 17 inmates.

As announced in my last cable, the authorities surprisingly decided to intervene in the camp's affairs, after the trouble makers have committed acts that are considered criminal. The arrest was not an easy matter - it took four hours and two times reinforcements until the Police was able to persuade the persons against whom the warrant of arrest was issued to surrender. It took the Commissioner of Police in person, with 40 armed police to do it. Fortunately it did not come to the use of force. In total, 15 persons were arrested by warrant and two for interfering with the police in carrying out their duty. Of the 15, ten are "Roshey eydoth" and the remainder their henchmen. I am happy to inform you that the camp is now perfectly quiet and orderly.

Now about the acts that were committed after those described in June's report and which practically caused the arrest: Since the attack on the house, I was having meetings with the "moetza", in which I have shown them my willingness to make concessions - as illustrated by the enclosed document, which was circulated amongst the members of this committee. Their demands were not more or less than to take over the management, including supervision of the accounts. Of course, I pointed out the absurdity of these claims. My target was to go on with these meetings until they will realise the wrongness of their claims. On the evening of the 14th, - a meatless day - they invaded the slaughtering place, beat up the watchman, took away his keys and slaughtered the best five cows, without our being able to stop them, as they had all their henchmen around, armed with sticks and knives. When Mr. Simon proceeded to the scene, they were already slaughtering the last cow. He warned them to think over what they are doing and their answer was: slaughter - - slaughter ... nobody can stop us. Half an hour later, I went out myself under the protection of our watchmen, only to see that they were already cutting up the meat. How the meat was disposed of next morning, we ignore - we only know that two-thirds of the inmates refused the portions offered, on the ground that it was stolen meat.

On the next evening we had to slaughter as usual, for Friday and Saturday, when we were informed that our butchers were given a warning to the effect that they should not attempt to carry out their work, because this would cause a fight - as the "moetza" wanted to repeat yesterday's performance. I took the matter in my hands, collected all the butchers and told them not to be afraid because I was going with them to slaughter. I surrounded the place by our watchmen and was able thus to avoid interference (without violence) a thing the "moetza" - assisted by a huge crowd - ~~has~~ tried badly. The next morning, the "moetza" members went to the store, where the meat was divided and took the rations by force.



-2-

Since the illegal slaughtering of five cows, I was in contact with Mr. Betensky, in whose opinion, too, there was no alternative to the arrest of the trouble makers, except to close the camp - a thing I could not do.

Sincerely yours,  
Olga Feinberg

P.S. As we found out lately, the aggressiveness of the offenders is due to a great extent to leaflets issued by the Yemenite Federation a few months ago. These leaflets were sent to various persons here approximately four weeks ago, but they were kept hidden from us - probably to be used as a trump card later. They contain misleading statements about our monthly budget.



52/237

7th September, 1948.

CK/FW

Anglo-Jewish Association,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.

Dear Sirs,

We are enclosing herewith for your information:

- (a) Two copies of a letter received from the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden and enclosures thereof.
- (b) Two copies of a letter received from Professor Bentwich in the matter.

For your information we would like to add that the teacher, Mr. Berger, mentioned in the letter from the Jewish Emergency Committee, has left Aden in the meantime for the United States and that the American Joint Distribution Committee is now trying to recruit another teacher to take his place.

A certain amount of difficulty was caused through personal differences between Dr. Abušak, who was sent to Aden in April 1948 to do medical work and acted as temporary administrator, and the appointed administrator Mr. Batensky who arrived at the beginning of July. In consequence the Joint



recalled Dr. Abus~~ak~~ak and instructed Mr. Batensky to make every effort to reach a modus vi vendi with the Jewish Emergency Committee now that the difficulties which arose out of an attempted split in responsibility, have been eliminated.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



527039

CK/LP

8th September, 1948.

Dear Mr. Joseph,

With reference to our telephone conversation,  
I am enclosing herewith:

- (a) copy of letter received from the Jewish  
Emergency Committee, dated 4th August last,  
and enclosures thereto;
- (b) copy of letter received from Professor  
Bentwich, dated 27th August last,
- (c) copy of a note on a conversation between  
Mr. Kapralik and Mr. Katzki of the American  
Joint Distribution Committee, on the 23rd  
ultimo.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

H. Oscar Joseph, Esq.,  
7/8, Princes Street,  
E.C.2.



Telephone: REGENT 4944-5

52/240

**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

MS/A/6

**199, PICCADILLY,  
LONDON, W.1.  
ENGLAND**

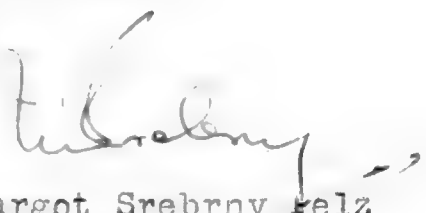
Sept. 9th, 1948.

M. Stephany Esq.  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House, T.C.I.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

For your information I am enclosing herewith  
copy of my letter to Mr. Viteles in Tel-Aviv, based  
on telephonic information given to me by Professor  
Bentwich.

Yours sincerely,

  
Margot Srebrny Pelz  
Assist. Secretary  
London Office.

Enc.



52/241

MR /A/D

September 8th, 1948.

To: A.J. P.O. Tel-Aviv. Mr. Harry Viteles.

From: A.J. P.O. London.

Re: Ben Sami.

Further to our letter of August 27th, 1948, on the above subject, we have to-day had further telephonic advice from Professor Bentwich as follows:-

"Professor Bentwich saw Mr. Gutch at the Colonial Office, who stated that the Government had no objections in policy in the removal of the 2,000 Yemenites, and they have advised the Governor of Aden accordingly. At the same time they feel - and have advised the Governor, - that the scheme of getting them out at 500 per week might be a little too drastic and deteriorate the situation, they suggest that if possible, this figure should be halved, i.e. approximately 250 persons should leave Aden per week. Regarding flying these people over Egyptian territories, the Colonial Office still hold the view that it would be totally useless to approach the Egyptian authorities, and suggest that Joint to be the risk of flying over Egyptian territory, if definitely essential, without prior permission. If no landing is contemplated in Egypt, this should be possible.

The Report of the Inquiry into the position in Aden published by the Government will be on sale in a week or two."

Sind regards,

x St non-military age.

Margot Srebray Polz.



(enclosure to

5/5/26/7  
521240

4  
c o p y

9 September 1948  
Crater, Aden

To: Mr. Viteles  
From: Betensky

I have just received some information about the Government's plans in the matter of compensation, which I consider reliable.

1. Government is very disturbed lest the Jews begin to leave Aden for Israel when peace is established. They do not want the Jews to leave the Colony because they believe that if the Jews leave, so will the Indians, and they do not want to be left alone with the Arabs, who will then not be so tractable. (Even now there is fighting going on in the interior).
2. Government has ready for use in payment of compensation a total of 2,500,000 Rs. In addition, they are ready to appropriate funds for housing loans. The decision is not to pay more than 30,000 Rs. in compensation to any one claimant and to pay as much as possible to small claimants. The housing scheme is devised to rebuild the burned houses and in addition to enable the Jews to build many new units. The policy behind the housing loans is to tie the Jews to Aden by means of mortgages on the property so that they will be unable to leave Aden.
3. Government is delaying the issuing of compensation payments because it does not have a committee of Jews (such as JEC should be) whom they can trust to tell them who is really in need of the compensation and who is not.
4. Many Jews, according to my informant, are going to think very carefully before they tie themselves to Aden by accepting a housing loan from the Government.
5. From what my bankers tell me I gather that Government is disturbed about the downward trend of prices and is really anxious to inject a lot of money into the market.
6. Government, according to this source, wants the Jewish community to put pressure on it for the payment of compensation and the giving of housing loans.

(sd) Leon Betensky



601 243

JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE  
Section A, Street No.1  
Camp Aden

9th September, 1948

Dear Sir,

We confirm our letter dated 4th August, 1948 and the exchange of the following telegrams:-

8.8.1948 Betensky disowning undersigned creating disruption amongst community rehabilitation reconstruction programmes ready request direct Betensky execute programmes forthwith through undersigned procrastination aggravating plight and expense. "

18.8.1948 At administrator Betenskys instigations Viteles ordered doctor Abuisaks immediate recall on alleged nonacceptance administrators authority without giving doctor opportunity refute allegations stop Appeal to you against unjustified Viteles order considering doctors great benefit and satisfaction to community and detrimental of his departure earnestly urge cancel arbitrary order stop community distressed by administrators disruptive attitude. "

23.8.1948 Complying your telegram reapproached administrator for ~~expediting~~ cooperation but administrator persists nondealing with undersigned apprehend trouble from administrator stop community partners in upkeep hospital consider injustice expulsion useful/ doctor unjustifiably stop Communitys importunities entitled be listened as doctors presence alleviating nervousness stop As community adversely affected implore defer departure till both sides present written statements for your judgment"

*receipt*

and have to acknowledge<sup>receipt</sup> of your telegrams reading as follows:-

21.8.1948 After great deal of difficulty and long delay administrator was sent Aden who was given full authority with regard all personnel functioning in area Stop We cannot at this distance go into relative claims and charges made by both sides but must insist on administrators full authority over all phases program JDC Stop Would appreciate very much if personal differences were put aside and emergency committee gave every cooperation to administrator in working out difficult problems involved stop must point out that further progress will be impeded unless everybody cooperates fully in bringing about hoped for improvements stop Both JDC and Central British Fund ask for immediate implementation relief and rehabilitation program and putting aside all other unimportant issues"

26.8.1948 Reason we sent administrator to Aden was because we could not from this distance involve ourselves in details of administration stop Refuse also now be drawn into question of merit between Betensky and Abuisak stop Matter is in hands Viteles who has authority from us act on the basis of his knowledge of the local situation in



2/24/41

Aden and also of the people involved stop. Believe it much more useful to get down to implementation of program and work rather than sending of countless messages in support of one or the other party Schwartz"

On receipt of your telegram dated 21st August, 1948 we sent our member ~~xxx~~ Mori Sholem Joseph to the administrator with a view to co-operate with him in working out the difficult problems and to expedite the implementation of the rehabilitation problem, but our offer for collaboration was rejected. We therefore wrote to him a letter dated 22nd August, as per copy enclosed, but instead of replying to our letter he wrote to Mr. Rahamim Howard as follows:-

" 23.8.48 You may inform the JEC that I am preparing a letter in which I shall put forth my recommendation for a reorganised JEC

Due to the press of work, it will take some time until the plan is ready. I hope it will be in shape by 5th September. "

From this you will understand that the administrator has no intention of working with the Jewish Emergency Committee and he used this letter merely as a time-wasting medium to put us off. We believe that our only fault lies in the fact that our members consist of the intelligentsia of Aden, who combined together to serve their community in the dire hour of their need. From various leaflets which he posted on the walls of the synagogues and distributed amongst the members, it appears that the community is being divided into sheep and goats, with the usual consequences. Some of these leaflets are enclosed for your information.

The administrator arrived in Aden on the 21st of June, 1948 and all the papers concerning relief and rehabilitation programmes had already been worked out by the Committee and Dr. Abuisak who acted as administrator before the arrival of the present administrator. These programmes were all ready on the point of implementation but for the arrival of the administrator who had brought matters to a standstill as, to our knowledge, no progress is being made with the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes. As you will see from our previous letter; as soon as the administrator arrived in Aden, he tried to create an opposition to the ~~JEC~~ JEC, but this opposition was won over by enlightenment and persuasion. As you know, poverty, overcrowding and family disruption are factors, which create malcontents, and from the tactics of the administrator it appears that these malcontents are being exploited to put an end to the activities of the JEC. Whatever may be said against the JEC, the JEC is serving a very useful purpose for the community. They were instrumental in preparing the cases for compensation and filing them before the expiration of one month, so that they should not be time-barred. They prepared the evidence and report which was placed before the Inquiry Commission and they have been on the alert against any outbreak or recrudescence of pogrom and finally they are the representatives of the Jewish Community before the government in matters affecting security, compensation, relief and the



52/245

rebuilding of the Jewish schools and institutions. Before the advent of the administrator they enjoyed the support of the whole community. In the distribution of relief they had to exercise the wisdom of Solomon and the patience of Job in order to satisfy all and sundry, especially those who had to be eliminated from relief with the reduction of the quantity. All these did not fail to create disaffection especially amongst those who were finally cut from relief. One of the commonest activities of the human being is fault finding. People often think that they can do better than the person who has the matter in hand. The eminent position; the more is the person exposed to criticism. In spite of all the manouvers of the administrator to get rid of us we have not seen our way to yield and desert the community at this dire hour, as we feel that our existence is essential to continue to keep watch and ward and guide our community, as we are still not out of the wood.

We ~~won't~~ received a telegram from our Aden Jewish Association in Tel Aviv informing us that Mr. Viteles received message from his representative at Aden, that part of the members of the Jewish Emergency Committee have reported to the authorities of the teaching of Zionism as endangering the peace of the community. We submit that this malici us and false report against the Jewish Emergency Committee is part of the manouvers to discredit the good name of the committee, with a view to bring about their down fall. We have already informed you about this incident in our letter dated 4th August, 1948 and we refer you to that letter again.

The teachers, who came from Israel, try to exploit the immaturity of our children especially the weak sex against the parents and the elders and we are prevented from correcting and directing our children in the path which is vital to their good behaviour. We cannot look in silence while our youth are being taught to revolt against their parents and elders. Our children are encouraged to follow their own inclination and are taught to believe that not to do so is detrimental to their personality. Our children who were more disciplined, less noisy and less obstreperous are now taught to disregard the words of their elders as they are labelled as old fashioned and out-moded. This is the outcome of a deliberate and carefully planned system of education that has completely superseded the notion that young people must obey their parents. As this has brought about indiscipline and insubordination amongst our children, we tried to restrain this detrimental way of teaching. This was labelled by the teachers as anti-Zionism and they are trying to use it as stick to beat us with. Our lives and our property have been at the mercy of our neighbours and our rulers, and unless we adapt ourselves to our environment, we expose ourselves to danger. The education of the Sholehaim has always been accompanied by pomp, pageantry and ostentation which did not fail to attract the attention of our neighbours. We have always been warned by the police not to do anything which would provoke the restrained hostile feelings of the people amongst whom we live and we quote a letter we received from the Superintendent of Police dated 26th May, 1948 which reads as follows:-

" This morning a symbol representing a Jewish flag was drawn on the road of A/2 in three places. It bore an inscription in Hebrew in each case. I had the symbols



removed - they were drawn with chalk.

I think you will agree that this sort of thing might provoke trouble and I will be glad if you will use your influence to see that it does not recur."

The next step which the administrator has taken against this community is depriving them of the good services of Dr. Abuisak without any ostensible reason; and the fact that the whole community have not been able, with all their persuasion and importunities, to make him change his mind shows the incurable intransigence and prejudice of the ~~next~~ administrator.

You will wonder why we were so keen to cancel the departure of Dr. Abuisak from Aden, and we give below some of our reasons:-

Owing to the insecurity of the roads especially at night time, it is very difficult for Jews to resort to the Government hospital. Owing to poverty, overcrowding and family disruption, the sick and ailing amongst the community have increased, while the accommodation in the Government Civil Hospital has not been correspondingly extended to meet such contingency.

Dr. Abuisak came to Aden in the middle of April, 1948 and has been very useful to the community not only as a healer, but as a factor in steadying the frayed nerves of the community, whose equilibrium has been sadly shaken by the pogroms and its consequences. Dr. Abuisak has proved the right man for such a situation, as he understood how to deal with such neurotic cases. In addition to his professional work, he trained a number of nurses and was about to train compounders which the Jewish community very badly needed. We are sure if his stay in Aden has not been cut short by tragic circumstances, more good work would have emerged from his stay in Aden.

Mrs. Abuisak who has been visiting Jewish houses and enlightening families on matters of health and upbringing children was prevented from doing so by the administrator in the following terms:-

"Pursuant to authorization from Mr. Viteles I directed Dr. Y. Abuisak on 21 July to cease taking rations either for himself, his family, or his servants, from Hospital or from Hospital funds. This includes the driver of the Joint auto. Today I informed Dr. Abuisak that he is not entitled to ask the JAC for rations either for himself or his servants. Further, I informed the Doctor & today that Mrs. Abuisak is not to visit the Hospital or the homes on behalf of the Hospital or the Joint. She has NO OFFICIAL connection with the Joint. The Doctor is without authority to introduce her into Joint activities and, if he does so, it is against my wishes. You are informed, for your protection, that as administrator I have the final voice in the operation of the hospital. I shall not accept any decisions or agreements made since my arrival made on behalf of the Joint by anyone other than myself."



The above quoted letter is addressed to the Jewish Emergency Committee dated 23rd July, 1948.

It is really very amazing, if it is not tragic, to see the administrator interfering with a lady who was doing a piece of good work for the community voluntarily and without remuneration. Her work was in the interest of the Jewish Community. Why on earth did the administrator prevent it? She has been the means of discovering many people who were suffering from scabies and other diseases and who were unaware of the danger of these ailments. She has also been the means of providing milk to mothers who lacked breast-milk by informing the hospital.

The Doctor's love for this community has taken deep root in the hearts of this community, but all these reasons did not touch the heart of the administrator, who persisted in depriving the community of this useful doctor, though it has become known to him that no Jewish Doctor is allowed to leave Israel at present. We do not consider such an action as Jewish democratic or philanthropic, not to speak of the humiliation which this community and the doctor has suffered in the eyes of the public. The more so, when the administrator refused to allow the doctor to work in the hospital even until the day of departure. To keep the hospital without doctor is a sheer waste of money. As regards the present part time doctor, the out-patients may as well go to his dispensary which is maintained by public charity. His engagement at a handsome salary does not fill the gap. It is considered that the dismissal of the doctor was against justice, equity and fair play, as he was condemned without being given the chance to defend himself. Whatever may be the qualification of the administrator, he is liable to err, as every human being, the more so, when prejudice and amour propre are taken into consideration. As active members of the Aden Jewish community, we cannot look in silence when an injustice has been done, not to speak of the unnecessary expense which the wrongful dismissal of the doctor involved.

We are not interested in the question of merit between Betensky and Abuisak. What we are interested in, is justice and the interest of our community. We are not aware of any action on the part of Dr. Abuisak justifying his dismissal and we have not been able to obtain reasons from the administrator of his action. In the absence of such information, we consider that Dr. Abuisak and the community have been victimised out of sheer prejudice and intransigence. As the interest of the administrator are identical with our interest, we cannot by any stretch of the imagination be considered taking sides either with the administrator or with the doctor. Our motive is straight and pure.

Mr. Viteles, whatever may be his knowledge of this community, is in no better position than the Jewish Emergency Committee who are natives of Aden and who deal with the wants and interests of this community from day to day. Their pleading for the retention of Dr. Abuisak ought to have been given consideration until both sides have presented their cases to you and you had time to decide on the merits at issue. As the Jewish Emergency Committee is paying their share of expense for



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the maintenance of the hospital, their views on the matter ought to have been heard and considered before final decision taken.

We trust that the foregoing facts will convince you of the justice of our cause and the malignity and falsehood of the slanders and ~~xxx~~ calumnies that have been maliciously brought against us.

Yours faithfully,  
JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

*B J Yash*  
for Acting Chairman.

BJY/DA

Mr. Schwartz,  
A.J.J.D.C.  
PARIS

Copy to:- The Board of Deputies of British Jews,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
London, W.C.1

CC/ Mr. Barnett Janner, Esq., BA, MP, LONDON.  
CC/ ✓ The Central British Fund, LONDON, W.C.1  
The Aden Jewish Association, Tel-Aviv,  
Mr. Bentob Mess, New York.  
World Jewish Congress, LONDON.



COPY FOR MR. STEPHANY.

521 249

MS/A/D/

Sept. 10th, 1948.

To: A.J.D.C. Tel-Aviv - Mr. Harry Viteles.

From: A.J.D.C. London.

Re: Amendment to our letter of Sept. 8th, regarding  
Aden Camp.

Further to our letter of September 8th, 1948, giving you  
a resume of a telephone conversation we had with Prof.  
Bentwich, we herewith wish to submit a slight clarification  
of one point at Prof. Bentwich's request.

*not recd. for filing*

"In line three and four it was stated that the Government had no objections to the removal of 2,000 non-military aged Yemenites and had advised the Governor accordingly. Professor Bentwich would here like me to point out, that the last word lies with the Governor, and it is left to him to judge whether this movement would have a serious effect on the local Arab population. And it is in this connection that it was thought wise to make the movement of these people a more gradual one and less conspicuous one - but, I repeat, this is a suggestion from London - the Governor has to decide on these points."

kindest personal regards,

Margot Stebbins Fels  
J.D.C. London.



521250

46, BASSETT RD.  
LONDON W 10

17th Sep 1948.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Your secretary has probably informed you that I have decided not to accept your kind offer of work in Aden. I did not wish to leave home again after an absence of almost three years, especially to a country about which I know so little. I was also doubtful whether a European Jew could succeed in this work among Eastern Jews. Let me thank you most sincerely for offering me this position. I hope that at some future occasion I shall be able to take advantage of your kind



and helpful interest in myself.

Allow me to wish you and your family  
a happy New Year.

Yours faithfully  
A. H. Hancock



50152

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

September 20, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We have just received additional information from Mr. Betensky in Aden about the reconstruction of the schools. He has been following up the matter in Aden and it has now reached the stage where Government is prepared to make a grant toward the repair of the girls' school as soon as the Jewish Emergency Committee presents estimates based on a fair contract for the rebuilding job. Government apparently will also recommend to the Finance Committee that a sum be made available toward rebuilding the boys' school as soon as the Jewish Emergency Committee presents contractors' estimates for that work likewise. Up to the present, however, the Jewish Emergency Committee has not complied with Government's request to submit the two estimates. This, then, is apparently what is holding up the rebuilding work. Government is ready to provide some funds after the Jewish Emergency Committee gives necessary information which up until now has not been forthcoming.

We do hope that these questions can be settled at an early date so that the rebuilding program can commence.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

HK/fc



21st September, 1948

Dear Mr. Abramovitch,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th instant and am very sorry that you could not undertake to go out to Aden, although I appreciate the reasons.

I shall be glad to hear of your continued progress and if there is anything which you think I can do, please do not fail to ask me.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

S. Abramovitch, Esq., B.A.,  
46, Bassett Road,  
London, W.10.



221254

# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

199, PICCADILLY,  
LONDON, W.1.  
ENGLAND

Sept. 21st, 1948.

MS/D/A/

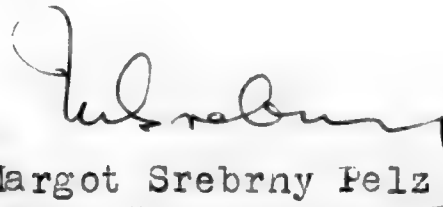
M. Stephany Esq.  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Further to our telephone conversation of  
this morning, I quote below cable received from Mr. Viteles  
in Tel-Aviv:-

"FOUR THANK BENTWICH GOOD NEWS YOURS EIGHTH  
SEPTEMBER ASK BENTWICH WHETHER ABRAMOVITZ  
PREPARED ACCEPT APPOINTMENT ADELA ADMINISTRA-  
TOR ALSO URGENTLY REQUIRE TEACHER BOYS SCHOOL."

Yours sincerely,



Margot Srebrny Pelz  
Asst. Secretary.



52/255

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, September 22, 1948 חל-אביב

REF. ....

51/4/2635

Professor Norman Bentwich.  
c/o AJDC.  
199, Piccadilly  
London W.1.

Dear Sir,

... Will you please let us have any additional information with regard to the enclosed memo (51/5/2319) from Dr. Tetensky on the situation in Italy today.

2. If Dr. Tetensky's information is correct, when it will be unnecessary for the JDC and the CEF to appropriate additional funds for reconstruction loans, and it would also be possible to reduce considerably expenditures for relief, medical services etc.

3. I plan to leave for Rome tomorrow. Therefore I suggest that you should address your reply to our JDC Office, Rome, with a copy to Dr. J. Schwartz, Paris, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Weiss

W:llf

encl: One as above



52/256

28th September, 1948

JB/YG

My Dear Harry,

I had your letter of September 21st about the movement of the ~~Yemenites~~ from the Hashed Camp and about Mr. Abramovitch.

It would be useless for me, I feel, to write to Champion about the emigration. He will have had by now the advice ~~from~~ the Colonial Office and also the report of the Commissioner, who has pointed out the difficulty which is caused to the Government of Aden by the presence in the Camp of some thousands of Yemenites. With that recommendation and advice the Governor's hands should be strengthened.

I spoke at once with Stephany about Abramovitch, but there is no chance of his considering the appointment. He has, in fact, attained an appointment here with Bachad - I am sorry for that.

Give my greetings to my Aden friends. I wrote to Cochrane this week and told him of your approaching visit.

The report of Trusted seems to me to be on the whole very satisfactory. The main things are recommended.

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Benin about the Schools.

Yours sincerely,

Dictated but not ~~by~~  
Professor Norman Bentwich.

H. Vitellis Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
199, Piccadilly, W.1.  
Enc:



52/257

28th September, 1948

M/YG

Dear Mr. Benin,

I hope that by this time you are back in Aden.

I have read the report of the enquiry into the disturbances, and I think it is a very satisfactory document. It does establish that the civil administration did not take effective steps to stop the riots on the evening of the second day and that the Aden Protectorate Levies failed to deal with the Arab rioters and were responsible for a lot of the killing and the looting. It does also deal satisfactorily with the charges of sniping by the Jews and I was glad to see that your submissions about that were quoted by the Commissioner.

The recommendations about maintaining permanently British troops in Aden, and placing a platoon in Crateras soon as there is a sign of trouble, should meet the requirements of the Jewish community. There is no finding, of course, about the compensation to be paid; but that is being dealt with separately, and I hope when the Government does make its intentions public they will be fair. The Anglo Jewish Association and the Board of Deputies are sending a deputation to the Colonial Office on this subject.

What does worry me and the Jewish Bodies here, is the delay in rebuilding the Jewish schools. You will remember that before I left Aden, which is now six months ago, the Governor had agreed to a contribution of half the cost of restoring the Girls' school; and I had negotiated with Mr. Delburgo and Mr. Gaio about doing the work. The question of rebuilding the Boys' school was left open at that time.

I have written to you several times urging that the work on the Girls' school should be put in hand and the Government's offer accepted. Now I am informed that the work is still held up because the Jewish Emergency Committee has not yet agreed to the

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52/28

-2-

terms or passed the contract and I am informed also that the Government is prepared to recommend a contribution for the repair of the Boys' school as well as of the girls' school, and that work too cannot be undertaken because of the delay of the Emergency Committee in passing the plans.

Part contribution by the Central British Fund and the I.C.A. was given expressly for the schools and it is most disappointing and, I think discreditable, that nearly a year has passed since the troubles and nothing has yet been done about that. I do beg you to get this matter settled without more delay.

I believe Mr. Itell is coming to Aden very soon and it would be most desirable that everything should be fixed up between the Emergency Committee and the Administrator of the Joint and the Government with regard to the schools as well as other things while he is there.

I expect to go to Palestine in a few weeks and I shall do my best there to help to find a Headmaster also a Headmistress for the schools, but the building should be put in order immediately.

I hope to hear from you what is being done.

I am addressing this letter to the Acting Chairman of the Committee in case you are still away.

Yours sincerely,

S.M. Benin, or the  
Acting Chairman of the  
Jewish Emergency Committee,  
Innovation Stores,  
Steamer Point,

ADEN



28th September, 1948.

REPORT ON THE POSITION IN ADEN.

At the meeting of the Council held on 31st May last, the Secretary reported on the position in Aden and on his discussions with the Officers of the A.J.D.C. It is with regret that the Secretariat has to inform the Council that the situation in Aden is still far from satisfactory. Although there have been no further disturbances, the economic position of the Jewish Community is still most precarious.

Very serious differences arose between the Administrator of the A.J.D.C., Mr. Betensky and <sup>Mr. Berger</sup> the Head Teacher, ~~Mr. Berger~~, appointed by the Joint, on the one hand, and the Jewish Emergency Committee on the other. A number of letters of complaint were addressed by that Committee to the A.J.D.C. and copies circulated to the C.B.F. and a number of ~~Inter-~~national Jewish bodies.

It is very difficult to apportion blame at a distance, and probably mistakes were made on both sides. The Aden Community is, no doubt, very backward and entirely oriental in their outlook. On the other hand, the Administrator and the Head Teacher developed a reformatory zeal which was probably more well meant than tactful.

The Secretariat took the opportunity which presented itself in August last, to place before the Joint in Paris the viewpoint of the C.B.F. that relief activities should not entail the pressing upon a Community of ideas and educational reforms which they decidedly do not desire and for which they are probably not yet ripe. This point of view was fully shared by the Joint.

A certain amount of difficulty was caused through personal differences between Dr. Abuisak, who was sent by the Joint to Aden in April 1948 to do medical work, and who acted as temporary Administrator, and the appointed Administrator, Mr. Betensky, who arrived at the beginning of July.



In consequence, the Joint recalled Dr. Abuisak and instructed Mr. Betenski to make every effort to reach a modus vivendi with the Jewish Emergency Committee, after the difficulties which arose out of an attempted split in the responsibility, have been eliminated.

In two personal telegrams quoted below, Dr. Schwartz urged co-operation between all concerned. The telegrams read:

- "21.8.48. After a great deal of difficulty and long delay Administrator was sent Aden who was given full authority with regard all personnel functioning in area Stop We cannot at this distance go into relative claims and charges made by both sides but must insist on administrators full authority over all phases program JDC Stop Would appreciate very much if personal differences were put aside and emergency committee gave every co-operation to administrator in working out difficult problems involved Stop must point out that further progress will be impeded unless everybody co-operates fully in bringing about hoped for improvements Stop Both J.D.C. and central British Fund ask for immediate implementation relief and rehabilitation program and putting aside all other unimportant issues."
- "26.8.48. Reason we sent Administrator to Aden was because we could not from this distance involve ourselves in details of administration Stop Refuse also now to be drawn into question of merit between Betenski and Abuisak Stop Matter is in hands Viteles who has authority from us act on the basis of his knowledge of the local situation in Aden and also of the people involved Stop Believe it much more useful to get down to implementation of program and work rather than sending of countless messages in support of one or the other party Schwartz."

The head teacher, Mr. Berger, whose activities were chiefly the reason for the disagreement with the Jewish Emergency Committee, left Aden in September for the United States. Although in that way one disturbing factor has been removed, it must be said that from reports received by the Joint, it appears that Mr. Berger did excellent work in his educational capacity. A Kindergarten was established and a Teachers' Training Seminary was started by him. Complete school equipment, forms, desks, etc., were bought with funds provided by the Joint. Mr. Viteles is now trying to find in Palestine, another person to continue Mr. Berger's activities in Aden.



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Mr. Betenski's term of office will definitely terminate in November next and it is <sup>very</sup> disturbing thought that up to now, the Joint have <sup>been unable</sup> failed to find another Administrator and that ~~the~~ efforts to find a suitable person in this country willing to go to Aden as representative of the Joint and the C.B.F. have also met with no success.

With reference to the grant made by the C.B.F. for the repair and extension of the Girls' School in Aden (see Min. 590 (a) paras. 4 and 5, of the meeting held on 31st May last), it is reported that the Joint recently received information from Mr. Betenski about the reconstruction of the schools. Mr. Betenski has been following up this matter in Aden and it has now reached the stage where the Government is prepared to make a grant towards the repair of the Girls' School as soon as the Jewish Emergency Committee presents estimates based on ~~a~~ a fair contract for the rebuilding. The Government will probably also recommend to the Finance Committee that a sum be made available towards the rebuilding of the Boys' School as soon as the Emergency Committee presents contractors' estimates for that work. Up to the present, the Jewish Emergency ~~Committee~~ Committee has not complied with the Government's request to submit the two estimates and this is holding up the rebuilding programme.

From a total amount of £16,900 voted by the C.B.F. for Aden (£3,000 thereof ex ICA funds), an amount of £5,150 was remitted to the A.J.D.C. in Aden. Before making further remittances, we have requested the Joint for a report on precisely how the amounts already remitted or to be remitted, are to be spent. So far, this information has not been forthcoming as the A.J.D.C. did not receive any financial reports from their Administrator. The Joint explains this is due to

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- 4 -

to an internal arrangement to the effect that Mr. Betenski, *who*  
was appointed by Mr. Viteles ~~and~~ should report to the latter.  
Mr. Viteles is resident in Tel Aviv and as communication  
between Aden and Tel-Aviv is still difficult and reports  
were not arriving, the Joint recently instructed Mr. Betenski  
to report direct to the Paris Office. V

Further remittances by the C.B.F. will be made when  
the expected reports from Mr. Betenski have arrived in Paris  
and passed on to the office of the C.B.F.

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# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE

INVAIDES } 87-83  
87-55  
79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

September 28, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

In accordance with recent conversations we give you herewith table showing amounts expended in Aden up to the end of August for the account of the Central British Fund, as well as budget for the Aden program September 1948:

|  | Amount appropriated<br>Rupees<br>L. (L-13.28R) | Actual<br>Expen-<br>diture<br>up to<br>31/8/'48 | Budget<br>for<br>September | Total to<br>30/9/'48 |
|--|--|---|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Supplementary relief<br>including Milk | 6,000 79,680 ± 2960                            | 38,489 1  | 20,900                     | 59,389               |
| Medical                                | 1,200 15,937 ± 870                             | 11,697  | 2,500                      | 14,197               |
| Education<br>(including equipment)     | 1,000 13,280 ± 420                             | 5,528   | 500                        | 6,028                |
| Clothing                               | 1,200 15,937                                   | -   | 10,000                     | 10,000               |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>9,400 124,834 4190</b>                      | <b>55,714</b>                                   | <b>33,900</b>              | <b>89,614</b>        |
| Equivalent L.                          |  | 4,195   | 2,553                      | 6,748                |

As we receive additional information we shall, of course, pass it on to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Melvin S. Goldstein*

Melvin S. Goldstein, Secretary

MSG/fc

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compana Unida Reconstruccion Ayuda, Mexico, and others



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119. RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting general letter #743.

October 1, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.I.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We have been asked by Mr. Viteles to instruct the ICA to transfer  
£ 2,000 to Mr. Leon Betensky, administrator of AJDC, Aden.

Will you please therefore remit the amount of -

£ 2,000 (Two thousand pounds)

to -

The Exchange Bank of India and Africa Ltd.  
Crater  
ADEN.

for the account of -

Leon Betensky.

We will appreciate your confirmation as soon as this transmission has been  
made.

AB/rk

  
S. SHARGO



52/265

8th October 1948.

NB/AM

By Air Mail

My dear Harry,

I have your letter of September 22nd about Aden, and I saw Schwartz in Paris when I was there last week.

I cannot give you any further information, because I have no independent news of the Government's intentions. I should feel some doubt whether Betensky's report is reliable. Anyhow, the Government made a thorough enquiry about the losses suffered and the need of compensation by individuals. I feel sure that in any case your funds for Reconstruction Loans will be required and ought to be made available at once. It would be most destructible if, after assuring the British Government that Jewish bodies would help the Community of Aden with their re-housing and other reconstruction, you, the Joint backed out. The Central British Fund have done their part and the JDC has made use of their grant.

When you get to Aden you may find that the relief and medical expenditure, etc. can now be reduced, but the important thing is to get on with the loans and the rebuilding of the schools.

Stephany is still trying to find somebody here who might go as an administrator. As I wrote to you Abramovitch was not available.

.....



I shall look forward to hearing from you about the conditions you find in Aden.

Yours sincerely,

Norman Bentwich.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
Via di San Basilio 9,  
ROME,  
Italy.



67  
6th October 1948.

Dear Mr. Bentwich,

I am enclosing herewith copy of the letter to Mr. Viteles. I have sent a copy to Dr. Schwartz in Paris, as requested.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Norman Bentwich,  
Hollycote,  
Vale of Health,  
N.W.3.



60 1268  
6th October 1948.

NB/AM

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

At the request of Mr. Harry Viteles, I am enclosing herewith copy of my to-day's letter to him.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Norman Bentwich.

Dr. J.J. Schwartz,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119 Rue St. Dominique,  
Paris 7.



521869

MS/AC

6th October, 1948

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, and thank you for the information given therein regarding the expenditure which has been incurred in Aden up to the end of August and the proposed expenditure during the month of September.

I take it that these figures give only the expenditure made by you out of the funds provided by the Central British Fund, but it would be of great interest to the Council of the Central British Fund if they could be informed of the amounts which have been expended by the American Joint Distribution Committee in Aden out of its own funds and for the various purposes for which such expenditure has been incurred.

I should esteem it a great favour if you could let me have this information as soon as ever possible.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Melvin S. Goldstein, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E).



TELEPHONE  
CENTRAL 6202.

TELEGRAMS  
72 TEMPLE.

52/270  
3, TEMPLE GARDENS,

TEMPLE, E.C. 4.

of fact this belief is not  
in accordance with the facts;  
but as I was told by the  
Colonial Office in confidence  
what they are going to do, I  
cannot at present disclose it.  
However the matter will be  
made public in *Notes* ~~at~~ any  
day now, if it has not been  
done already. The position as  
to the Schools remains unaltered.  
There is no possibility of any  
more money being provided by  
the Government for the Schools.

P.T.O.



52/271

Indeed I take a poor view of  
the Government's offer in regard  
to Schools. It is common for  
practice in Bihar for the  
Government to make a grant  
of one third to the cost of  
building any school. In the  
present case the <sup>(rough)</sup> estimate  
of the cost of repairs to the Girls'  
School is Rs 50,000 & to the  
Boys' School Rs 300,000,  
and the Government's total  
offer is only Rs 100,000  
although there is a stronger case  
where it is <sup>by rect</sup> damage to an existing school  
than where it is a matter of  
building a new school



TELEPHONE  
CENTRAL 6202.

TELEGRAMS  
72 TEMPLE.

3, TEMPLE GARDENS,

TEMPLE, E.C. 4.

52/12/72

7 Oct 1948

Dear Mr. Kapralik,

I promised to send you  
a copy of the letter from Helen,  
but I have no typist available  
at the moment, so I enclose  
the original letter & the enclosure  
thereto. The latter is what you  
are interested in. Please take a  
copy of your wish & return them  
to me.

Mr. Yaish, the writer, is, as  
it were, second-in-command  
on the Jewish Emergency



52/2/3

committee in Aden.

ours sincerely

J. H. Arnold

P.S. It may interest you to know that I hear today that the J.D.C. in Paris is talking about withdrawing from Aden on the ground that (as they believe) the Government in Aden is proposing to make a grant of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million riyals as compensation to the victims of the Aden riots. As a matter



TELEPHONE  
CENTRAL 6202.

TELEGRAMS

72 TEMPLE.

3, TEMPLE GARDENS,

TEMPLE, E.C. 4.

52/274

Personally I think the two  
estimates of Rs 50,000 & Rs  
500,000 will be found to be  
underestimates.



52/1275

Aden, 24th September, 1948.

Dear Mr. Diamond,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 1st July, 1948 and I am very grateful for your generous offer to help my community as far as you can.

You know, the Special Magistrate has passed judgments in the compensation cases but has not pronounced them and we understand that Sir Harry Truett has also issued his report on the pogroms, but it was not published.

The Government paid Rs.100,000/- as ex gratia to the sufferers. This amount was distributed in small sums but these, as you know, did not relieve the situation. The Government has also offered to pay one-third towards the reconstruction of the Boys School as per letter enclosed. These offers have been accepted, without prejudice to our claim that the whole of the repair and rebuilding of the Girls School and the Boys School should be paid by the Government. We have now to find the remaining two thirds to have the school rebuilt.

The Jewish Community will highly appreciate if you, together with other bodies interested in the Jewish community of Aden, will take what action you deem fit to persuade the Colonial Office to pay the maximum of compensation to the direct victims of the pogroms, as well as for the reconstruction of the Schools and Synagogues, which were destroyed during the riots.

We remember with affection your stay in our midst for some time and your departure has been painfully missed by the Aden Jewish Community, as you were the only person who came into direct contact with most of the pitiful stories of the victims of the pogroms. I don't think there is any one in Aden who knows more than you do about the plight of the Jewish community. You are therefore in a position to give a true and convincing picture of the plight of our brethren here. It will be very interesting if you write something about the pogroms of Aden, as you are in a very fit position to do so, having come across the various pathetic experiences of the direct victims of the pogroms.

Anything you can do for our community will be very gratefully appreciated and remembered.



52/276

How long the Jewish community shall remain confined in their quarter. As it is, any one venturing out of the trodden path, with the exception of the Crescent shops, is exposed to attack and the hawkers and peddlers are unable to earn their livelihood. Under these circumstances the Jewish Community will never be able to find for themselves and only moneys received will be spent on food and clothing without being employed in business.

We understand that the claims for compensation are now before the Colonial Office for final decision and we shall gratefully appreciate any assistance in the matter at this rightful hour.

Sincerely Yours,

(Sgd) B.J. Yaish

JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.



52/279

JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,

Aden, 19th July, 1948.

Sir,

We have the honour to refer to the talk our Mr. Ahronee has had with you on the morning of the 12th instant, in which it was indicated that the Government was prepared to make a contribution towards the cost of the reconstruction of the Jewish Boys School of Rs. 100,000 on the assumption that the cost of reconstructing the school has roughly been estimated at Rs. 300,000. It was also indicated that out of the said Rs. 100,000, Rs. 25,000 would be allocated towards the repairing of the Girls School.

We accept the above offer without prejudice to our claim that the whole of the repair and rebuilding of the Girls School and the Boys school should be paid by the Government. We wish to state that we cannot make use of this money unless we are able to raise the balance of the cost of repairing the Girls School and reconstructing the Boys school.

We are therefore appealing to our brethren in England, America and elsewhere to raise the balance of the money needed to complete the work and we shall inform you of the result of our appeals in due course. We have placed these facts before the administrator for the Aden Jewish Community, who has been sent by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and he promised to refer the matter to Mr. Harry Viteles.

We have the honour to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,  
FOR THE JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE,

Sa/- Ahronee Solomon,  
Ag: Chairman.

The Hon'ble the Chief Secretary to the Government, Aden

Through

The Hon'ble Director of Education, Aden.



82/278

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

8th October, 1948.

Dear Mr. Shargo,

Your letter dated the 1st instant, only came to hand today.

We immediately instructed our bankers, the Westminster Bank Ltd., Tavistock Square, W.C.1., to remit by cable the amount of £2,000 to the Exchange Bank of India and Africa Ltd., Crater, Aden, for the account of your Administrator, Mr. Leon Betensky. We shall be obliged if you will let us know for what purposes this remittance is to be used.

May I add that the initial sentence (... "to instruct the ICA"...) is not quite clear to us. As you know, ICA made a contribution to the Central British Fund earmarked for Aden. This became part of our general funds, but on the other hand, the Central British Fund made grants for the work in Aden.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S. Shargo, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



52/279

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

8th October, 1948.

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

With reference to your letter of the 28th ultimo, and our letter of the 6th instant, I should be obliged if you would inform us for what purpose the amount of £1,000 placed at the disposal of Mr. Viteles, through Mr. Braude on the 23rd December 1947, was spent.

Yours sincerely,

Helvin S. Goldstein, Esq., Secretary,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



52/288  
AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

TELEPHONE

INVALIDES } 87-83  
87-55  
79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

//  
October 8, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 6, 1948, referring to the statement we sent you on September 28th showing expenditures in Aden. We wish to confirm at this time that the figures we gave you in the September 28th statement show only the expenditures made by us out of CBF funds.

Mr. Harry Viteles is now in Aden and we are asking him to obtain for us a complete statement showing all amounts spent in Aden for the program there. As soon as this is obtained we shall, of course, communicate with you.

Sincerely yours,

*Melvin S. Goldstein*  
Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG/fc



CENTRAL BRITISH FUND FOR JEWISH RELIEF AND REHABILITATION. 521287

GRANTS MADE IN RESPECT OF ADEN.

|  |   | <u>TOTAL GRANTS.</u> | <u>TOWARDS WHICH<br/>THE FOLLOWING<br/>EARMARKED FUNDS<br/>WERE RECEIVED.</u> |
|--|---|----------------------|---|
| 31.12.47.                                    | For General Relief Purposes                   | £3,000.              |   |
| 10. 3.48.                                    | -do- -do- -do-                                | 6,000.               | £1,000. ICA.  |
| " " "  | For Medical Expenses                          | 1,200.               | £1,000. Anonymous   |
| " " "  | For Clothing                                  | 1,200.               |   |
| " " "  | For Educational Purposes                      | 500.                 |   |
| " " "  | -do- -do- Equipment                           | 500.                 |   |
| (Total amount voted on<br>Lo.3.48 - £9,400.) |   |                      |   |
| 31. 5.48.                                    | For Repairs and Extension<br>of Girls' School | 4,500.               | £2,000. ICA.  |
|  |   | <u>£16,900.</u>      |   |

The following payments were made on account of  
the above grants:-

|           |                        |   |                |                                 |
|-----------|------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 23.12.47. | Through Messrs. Braude | - | £1,000.        | ✓                               |
| 28. 7.48. | To the A.J.D.C.        | - | £4,150.        | Relief 2900 Medical 570 Adm 420 |
| 8.10.48.  | -do- -do-              | - | £2,000.        |                                 |
|           |                        |   | <u>£7,150.</u> |                                 |

8th October, 1948.



CK/LP

11th October, 1948.

Dear Mr. Diamond,

We thank you very much for your letter of the 7th instant and the information contained therein.

We are enclosing copy of a report from the Joint Administrator, Mr. Betensky, which is probably the basis of the rumour that the American Joint Distribution Committee is withdrawing from Aden. We are as sceptical as you about the contents of the report.

We are returning the original of the letter addressed to you by Mr. Yaish and copy of the letter from the Jewish Emergency Committee to the Chief Secretary to the Government, Aden, and we have retained copies for our files.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.S. Diamond, Esq.,  
3, Temple Gardens,  
Temple, E.C.4.



INFORMATION COPY FOR MR. STEPHANY.

52/283

MS/A/

Oct. 12th, 1948.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
Palestine House,  
18, Manchester Square,  
W.1.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

Further to our telephone conversation of to-day,  
I quote below the two cables received from Mr. Viteles from  
Aden, as well as our reply to him as suggested by you.

- (1) "ADVISE BENTWICH REFERENCE PARAGRAPH THREE  
MY LETTER TWENTYFIRST SEPTEMBER ACTION  
URGENTLY REQUIRED HOLIDAY GREETINGS."
- (2) "ASK BENTWICH REPLY ABOUT ABRAMOVITZ."

and our reply:-

"YOURS OCTOBER NINE AND TEN BENTWICH  
APPROACHED COLONIAL OFFICE CAN DO NO  
MORE STOP ABRAMOVITZ UNOBTAINABLE BUT  
HOPEFUL OTHER CANDIDATE WILL ADVISE."

Yours sincerely,

W.F.

Margot Srebnay,  
Assistant Secretary.

cc: M. Stephany Esq.



F



POST OFFICE

OVERSEAS TELEGRAM

Received at the  
Central Telegraph Office  
London, E.C.1

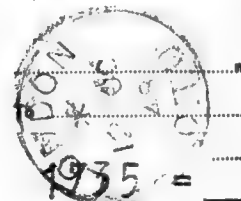
From .....

CR

5231 PARIS 0007698 21/20 12

No. .... Office Stamp

52/284



1/12

ELT STEPHANY MIGRATE LONDON =

REFERENCE TELCONVERSATION BECKELMAN UNBELIEVE I  
LIGHTIGFELD SUITABLE ADEN ASSIGNMENT STOP WILL  
ADVISE REFERENCE OTHER POSSIBLE PERSONS = JOINTFUND  
= ELT \* \*



52/285

MS/AC

14th October, 1948

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

I am in receipt of your telegram of the 12th instant, which I read to mean that you do not think that Lichtigfeld would be suitable for the Aden assignment.

With you, we are very anxious indeed that some suitable person should be sent out as soon as ever possible and I shall be glad if you could keep me posted as to any possibilities that you may have. In the meantime, should I hear of anybody whom I think suitable, I will certainly let you know.

With kind regards and all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

M.W. Beckelman, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
PARIS. Committee Secretary.



521286

15th October, 1948

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

Re: Aden.

The Council of the Central British Fund had before it at its meeting on the 11th instant a report on the position with regard to Aden so far as we know it at the moment, and I have been asked to obtain, if possible, for their information a further report as soon as possible.

I should esteem it a great favour if you could let me know at your early convenience what steps you have been able to take with a view to sending out an Administrator to take the place of Mr. Betensky, who I understand will be leaving on the 1st November. Our Council is also very anxious to know what progress is being made with regard to the repair of the Girls' School and the rebuilding of the Boys' School, towards which we have already voted a certain sum of money.

According to the information received by certain members of the Jewish Community in this country, the position of the Jews in Aden is deteriorating very rapidly and our Council is anxious that any help which it can give should be conveyed as speedily as possible to the people in order to enable them to become self-supporting without any further delay.

The reports which were conveyed by Mr. Betensky in his memorandum of the 9th September, a copy of which was sent to Mr. Bentwich, seemed to indicate that the Government was likely to make further substantial payments, but we have not so far been able to obtain any confirmation of this.

I should be very much obliged if you could let me have some further information as soon as ever possible.

With best thanks in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

M.W. Beckelman, ~~Adm.~~ Secretary.  
American Joint Distribution ~~Office.~~  
Paris.



TELEPHONE  
CENTRAL 6202.

TELEGRAMS

72 TEMPLE.

3, TEMPLE GARDENS,

TEMPLE, E.C. 4.

18 Oct. 1948.

52/187  
Dear Stepany,

Adele

Thank you for your  
letter of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Enclosed is  
another letter from Adele. The  
writer is the most reliable  
fellow in the community. If  
you are interested, take a copy  
& please return to me.

Yours sincerely

A.S. Diamond.



COPY.

CABLE ADDRESS:- YEDID, ADEN.

Aden, 3rd October 1948.

Dear Mr. Diamond,

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

To-day being the eve of our New Year and therefore take the opportunity to wish you all, A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. MAY THE COMING YEAR SEE US ALL IN OUR FATHERS LAND "ERETZ ISRAEL". AMEN. On this occasion I have to-day sent you a cable greeting, reading, GLT., DIAMOND, 51 MARESFIELD GARDENS, LONDON. BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR, YESHOOA.

On the 26th ultimo I wrote to you from Bombay, I have no doubt you received my letter. I have as well posted to you some eggs powder and FUSTOK nuts. I hope you will like them. If you want more please write to me. I am prepared to send you. I am please to learn that you received my first parcel.

I arrived in Aden, on the evening of 28th ult. and I found in my desk your two letters of 7th ult. and 7th August last, the contents of which noted. For which I thank you.

I thank you for supporting my letter to the A.J.A., and the C.B.F., but it regretted so far no active support was received from them. They have not as yet distributed the Rehabilitation Loan and things are going worse for the community. The A.J.A. & the C.B.F. are relying on Mr. Vitales writing. Just between you and me I say that Mr. Vitales have no the least sympathy for the community. He greatly ruined their future. He wrote to the A.J.A. & C.B.F. that Aden Community did not pay their part for the Head Master and Doctor. Mr. Vitales went and interfere in their work. He collected money from the Jews of Aden in Tel-Aviv and put it as donations towards the Joint. He is not willing to account it as part of Aden Community's obligations towards the Headmaster, Doctor, etc. He wants the Community to pay separate. Where on earth can the stricken community produce money for him when he went and collected from the very source they intended to collect? Moreover, through his interference the Jewish Emergency Committee, Aden lost heavily. This was the reason of their loss:- When they promised Mr. Vitales of paying their share their programme was to collect the following sums from these gentlemen, namely, Mr. M. B. MENAHEM MESSA....Rs.50,000/- Mr. Solomon I. Cohen Rs.40,000/- Mr. Moses Cohen, Rs.30,000/- Mr. Selim M. Banin Rs.20,000/- Mr. Altir M. Yahooda Rs.10,000/- and many other small sums. But Mr. Vitales came and agreed to take from the first two, Rs.20,000/- and Rs.10,000/-. He was as MESSIAH to them. He delivered them from those SATANS of Aden who wanted much larger sums. As a result Mr. Moses Cohen scarcely agreed to pay Rs.10,000 only, while Mr. Yahooda completely declined. You will no doubt agree that in question donations (money) a man easily inclines to discouragement and that the result of Mr. Vitales coming in the center. He scuttled all our programme. Not only this but he does not care much for our relief. We are not European Jews as he is - for whom millions of Dollars are being poured. We are only Oriental Jews. But God will help us. Mr. Vitales brought here one simple Nurse from Palestine. She stayed for about 4 months and he spent for her well over £800. Why? Because she was European Jewess. Now the/



Administrator, Mr. Betensky is here and he is no better than Mr. Viteles. I do not understand why up to now the Rehabilitation Loan was not distributed. "A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE". If the loan or the reconstruction was made in time it would have saved a lot of the present community trouble. But God will help us. We have to turn to HIM.

Just for your information, I would like to add that since the December riots two Jewish Buildings collapsed and one was set on fire just on the 22nd September 1948, by accident or so. The loss of these three houses added more difficulties to the problem of the already congested houses. Unless something is done now by the C.B.F. or the Joint for re-construction I can assure you that thing shall get worse.

SCHOOL:- I do appreciate Mr. Bentwich interest in our school. He is quite right. Our boys are almost without any kind of study. You will find them roaming from place to place. The Headmaster which Mr. Viteles brought already left for U.S.A. I should say and admit that our rich people of Aden never care a bit about the education of their children. If our elders of Aden deserted us what about our brothers in Diaspora. Are they too intend to desert us. Our future depends on the coming generation. Something must be done now. In my opinion the question of education should come first, then the question rehabilitation loan and reconstruction. The Joint may cancel the rehabilitation loan but should build the school and import teachers. We lack teachers. I am almost sure that all the sufferers shall be glad if this is done first. For me absolutely I do not mind the loan as much as the school. Tackle this problem first. It is of prime importance. Press much on Mr. Bentwich.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) M. S. Yeshooa.  
-----



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Ref: 51/4/36/5

Tel-Aviv, October 20th, 1948

תל-אביב

Professor Norman Bentwich  
The Central British Fund for  
Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
LONDON, W.C.1

Dear Professor Bentwich,

We refer to your letter dated September 28th  
(ref.JB/YG) which reached us after Mr. Viteles had  
already left for Aden.

We have cabled to him the information regard-  
ing Mr. Abramovitch, and upon his return we shall  
place your letter before him.

Yours sincerely

*P. Litwak*  
P. Litwak

EE:LIF



52/291

MS/AC

22nd October, 1948

Dear Mr. Diamond,

I have your letter of the 18th instant together with the enclosure which I return herewith after having made a copy. I am hoping to hear something further from the Joint in the very near future.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.S. Diamond, Esq.,  
3, Temple Gardens,  
London, E.C.4.



52/292

## AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR ITALY

9 Via di San Basilio

R O M E

Louis D. Horwitz  
Director

Offices in:  
Rome  
Milan  
Bari  
Florence  
Genoa  
Naples  
Triest

In your reply please refer to:

Date: October 27th, 1948

Prof. Norman Levinson  
c/o The Central British Fund for Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London W.C.1

Dear Sir,

1. Your letter of the 6th inst. was handed to me when I arrived in Rome yesterday afternoon.
2. The trip to and from Aden took eight days and was very tiring. The fortnight stay in Aden was most uncomfortable and hot. I do not think that it will be possible for me to visit Aden again, except during December, January or February.
3. Charrion was <sup>vacillating</sup> ~~very fascinating~~. He gave his o.k. on the 11th; cancelled it on the 16th; and renewed it at noon on the 21st, less than 24 hours before my scheduled departure. He has agreed to the emigration of all of the Camp population except the 800 men of military age. This approval is subject to cancellation without notice in the event that there are any disturbances after we start moving the 3200 refugees, who are eligible for emigration. It is proposed to move the children first and to give top priority to the 700 orphans and to about 150 widows who will accompany the children. The first planes should leave Aden on the 8th. November and, if the Company can arrange for the Shell in Aden to refuel the planes, the A.O.C. has agreed to allow three planes daily (about 150 passengers.)
4. I agree with you that we should proceed immediately to make available the Lst 16,000.- which we have for business and



52/293

housing loans. The Government gave me a printer's proof of its scheme, which is much less liberal than the scheme proposed by Beachgaard. The maximum will be 30,000.- Rupees and amounts in excess of about 4000 Rupees will be ~~paid~~<sup>given</sup> as loans interest free, re-payable within 15 years beginning with the fourth year. Every applicant will be subject to a means test. Beachgaard had recommended a maximum of 100,000.- Rupees, all to be given as grants and without means test.

5. Unfortunately Mr. Petanski, who resigned three months ago and wishes to leave by the end of November, had to be hospitalised. He has a bad case of amoebic dysentery. He has been very badly treated by the Community and by the Government, though I admit that he made one or two tactical mistakes.
6. With regard to the rebuilding of the school, I suggested the following procedure:-
  - a) Since the founder of the girl school has declared himself prepared to finance the cost of rebuilding the school, there is no need to use the Government grant of 25,000.- Rupees.
  - b) The Community should suggest to the Government that it should make available 100,000.- Rupees or approximately one third of the cost of the rebuilding the boys school and have another 50,000.- Rupees in view; I suggest that the Lst 4200.- which C.B.F. has approved in principle also should be used; and that the Community and JDC should provide the other 100,000.- Rupees. The boy's school will be used also for the girls school (in the afternoon) until such time as the girls school will be rebuilt. The founder of the girls school refuses to permit the building to be used for the boys under any circumstances.
  - c) The Community has agreed to set aside Lst. 3000.- which is still available out of funds which I raised (others than the 9400 C.B.F. funds which will be used up shortly) for trade education and that the boys school could be used for this purpose.
  - d) Until such time as the boy's school has been rebuilt and the girl school has been repaired, the four rooms in the girls school, which according to the Government are still useable, should be used for the boy's school, which is now housed in several unsuitable rooms in two houses.
  - e) Every effort should be made to engage a Headmaster to replace Mr. Berger. The Headmaster must know English and his principal tasks will be to train teachers (separate classes for men and women) and to supervise both the boys and girls school. The



JDC, I think, will be prepared to pay the costs of such a Headmaster.

- (. I leave for Iran on the 7th November. It is possible that I will be asked to come to Paris between the 4th and 7th November. If you think that it would serve any useful purpose I probably could arrange to fly to London for a conference, provided that I need not remain in London more than 24 or 48 hours.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Harry

W. H. Miller



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

521895

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PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

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JOINTFUND-PARIS

ACCOUNTING LETTER # 779

October 28, 1948.

Mr. S. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
LONDON W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We still have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 8th., in which you advised us that you instructed the Westminster Bank to remit by cable £ 2000 to the Exchange Bank of India for the account of Mr. Leon Detensky.

Please be advised that we received the following cable from Mr. Detensky, on October 18th.,

"I OBTAINED POUNDS TWO THOUSAND WHICH ASSUME ICAS CONTRIBUTION  
RECONSTRUCTION LOANS"

to which we replied:-

"YOUR ASSUMPTION CORRECT".

With respect to the last paragraph of your letter, we wish to state that, in our letter of October 1, we practically used the wording given in a cable sent to us by Mr. Viteles from Tel Aviv.

We understand, of course, that ICA made a contribution to you and earmarked this for ADEN:

Thanking you for your kind attention to this matter,

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

SS/NR

  
S. SHARGO



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

52/296  
TELEPHONE  
87-83  
87-55  
79-37  
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CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

October 28, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany:

Re: Aden

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 15, 1948, regarding the program in Aden.

Mr. Viteles, who is now in Aden, just advised us that Mr. Betensky will not be leaving Aden before the second half of November. The Loan Committee which was established by Mr. Betensky is being utilized, and Mr. Betensky hopes to be able to complete the issuance of the greater part of the amounts available for reconstruction and housing loans before he leaves. It is, indeed, unfortunate that it is not possible to implement the program in Aden as speedily as is usually the case in European countries, but the type of community in Aden and the ~~circumstances~~ of the people there have prevented us from proceeding as quickly as we wished. Nevertheless, Mr. Viteles now assures us that progress is being made, and we expect to have some concrete information on the various projects soon which we will, of course, pass along to you.

As regards an Administrator to take Mr. Betensky's place, we want you to know that we are interviewing some people for this post. Meanwhile, should you have any names to put forward, we should be very glad to consider them.

I know you will be interested in learning that the Governor of Aden has now granted permission for the emigration of the Yeminite Jewish refugees in the Hashed camp, except males between the ages of 17 to 45. We hope, therefore, that it will be possible to move about 3,000 people from Hashed to Israel, and we are now making arrangements to have planes to fly these people to Israel. We are hoping that the first plane will leave Aden with immigrants during the first week in November. - With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

MWB/hf

M.B. Beckelman

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compena Unida Reconstruccion Ayuda, Mexico, and others



62/27

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

ADEN - COMPENSATION TO JEWS.

November 1, 1948.

SCHEME OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE CIVIL DISTURBANCES OF  
DECEMBER 1947.

Following the disturbances of December 1947, a large number of claims to compensation were received by Government in respect of loss of, and damage to, property and in respect of loss of life and personal injuries.

2. Government decided to appoint a Special Magistrate under Section 16 of the Police Ordinance 1937, to investigate these claims and assess the amount of damage, and to advise whether the procedure prescribed in that Section for meeting claims in whole or in part, in certain circumstances, could be held to apply.

3. The Special Magistrate's general judgment is annexed hereto. It will be seen that, after careful consideration of all the circumstances, he came to the conclusion that the "remedy" provided in Section 16 of the Police Ordinance could not be held to apply, and that consequently none of the claims could be sustained in law. He also pointed out that no legal liability devolved on Government for meeting the claims in whole or in part. He considered, however, that as a practical solution on humanitarian grounds, there was a case for giving assistance to those who had suffered in the disturbances on an ex gratia basis, and recommended the adoption of a scheme under which proven claims would be met from public funds in accordance with a sliding scale, the effect of which would be that claims up to Rs. 200 would be met in full, and that higher claims would be met on a gradually diminishing percentage basis, and subject to an overall maximum.

4. He also set out, in paragraphs 7(c) and 11, his recommendations in respect of claims arising from deaths and personal injuries.

5. Government, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, has accepted the Special Magistrate's conclusions that Section 16 of the Police Ordinance does not apply, and that no legal liability devolves on Government. It has also decided, with the concurrence of the Standing Finance Committee of Legislative Council, that some measure of assistance from public funds, on an ex gratia basis, is necessary if many of the people who suffered in the disturbances are to regain their means of livelihood. It has not, however, felt able to approve the full adoption of the scheme proposed by the Special Magistrate, because it considers that it is only justifiable to use public funds for the purpose to the extent that these are strictly necessary to assist in the economic rehabilitation of the people concerned, and so enable them to play their part as useful members of the community.

6. A modified scheme has, therefore, been adopted, to provide assistance to persons whose claims in respect of loss of, or damage to, property have been proved to the satisfaction of the Special Magistrate. Particulars of this scheme are contained in paragraphs 7 - 14 below.

7. Amount of proven damage  
in Rupees.

Percentage of proven damage in  
respect of which assistance may be  
given.

1. On the first 1 - 200
2. On the next 201 - 1000
3. On the next 1001 - 5000
4. On the next 5001 - 20,000
5. 20,001 and upwards

100.

90.

80.

70.

60 subject to the condition  
that the maximum assistance in all  
categories in any one case shall  
not exceed Rs.30,000.



52/288

8. Assistance in respect of proven claims falling within the first three categories will be available in the form of grants. Claimants of proven claims will be eligible to receive grants from Government up to the approved percentage of their proven claims within these categories. Such assistance will, however, be subject to a test of need, and it will be decided in each case whether, and if so to what extent, assistance can be given.

9. In respect of proven claims falling into categories 4 and 5 any assistance given will be in the form of loans. Those persons possessing proven claims in these categories will be eligible to seek assistance in this form up to the approved percentage of proven claims within these categories, and subject to a maximum in any one case of Rs. 30,000 covering loan and grant. Such assistance will again, however, be subject to a test of need, and it will similarly be decided in each case whether, and if so to what extent assistance can be afforded.

10. Persons will be eligible to receive assistance by way of grant in respect of their claims in the first three categories, and also seek supplementary assistance in the form of loans in respect of their claims in categories 4 and 5.

11. The following conditions will apply in the case of loans granted in respect of claims falling within categories 4 and 5:-

(1) Evidence must be produced that a loan is needed to enable the individual to regain a reasonable livelihood.

(2) No interest will be charged on the loan.

(3) Loans will be repayable by equal annual instalments over a period of 15 years, commencing 3 years after the loan is made. Earlier repayments can be made if desired.

(4) Loans must be applied for within 3 months from the date of the announcement of the scheme.

(5) The purpose or purposes for which the loan is required must be clearly indicated.

(6) It will be necessary for the applicant to furnish security in the form of mortgages on property, or equally satisfactory security, whenever possible. Failing sufficient material security, the surety of two other responsible citizens may be accepted.

12. Assistance by way of grant or loan will not be paid to persons who have left Aden Colony, or who elect to remain in Hashed Camp. This condition is considered necessary in order to conserve the main purpose of the scheme, which is to help in the economic rehabilitation of the community. Cases of persons returning from abroad or from the Camp would be considered later on their merits, without regard to the time limit stated in paragraph 11(4) above. Repairing of houses or construction of new buildings to first floor level will be regarded as of primary importance.

13. Separate notification will be sent to each person who registered a claim with the Special Magistrate, informing him or her whether or not the claim (or part of it) has been proven. Each claimant whose claim has been proven will be further advised what steps he should take if he wishes to apply for assistance under the scheme described in paragraphs 7 & 12 above.

14. As regards claims in respect of deaths and personal injuries, Government has decided to accept the Special Magistrate's recommendations in paragraphs 7(c) and 11 of his Report. Claimants who registered claims will be informed separately whether or not their claims have been upheld, and, if so, what steps will be taken to secure payment.

The Secretariat, Aden, 18.10.1948.



50/299

3rd November, 1948

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Beckelman,

Re: Aden.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, contents of which I note.

I am very pleased indeed to know that arrangements have now been made for the issue of the loans for re-construction and rebuilding and I shall be glad to hear, in due course, how this work progresses.

In the meantime, I should be glad if you could arrange to let me have details of the amounts actually expended as asked for in my letter of the 6th ultimo.

I also note what you write with regard to the emigration from the Hashed Camp. When this is completed it will certainly ease the situation very considerably.

in  
With best thanks ~~for your~~ anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

M.W. Beckelman, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E),



Telephone No. EUSTON 3952-3

62/300  
Telegrams: Deputies, Kincross, London.

THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES OF THE BRITISH JEWS  
*generally known as*  
The Board of Deputies of British Jews

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Solicitor:  
CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL.

Secretary:  
A. G. BROTMAN.

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

3rd November, 1948.

J. Stephany, Esq.,  
Secretary,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I am enclosing copy of a cable  
just received from Aden, which may prove useful in  
our discussions to-morrow.

Yours sincerely,



D. MOWSHOWITCH.

DM/RR  
ENC:1.



COPY.

RECEIVED 3RD NOVEMBER, 1948.

62/3d

DNSA 162 AFEN 72 2 1855-

NLT DEPT'S KINGCROSS LONDON

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE SCHEME PUBLISHED SUCCESSFUL CLAIMANTS RECEIVE  
SUBJECT TO TEST OF NEED MAXIMUM THIRTYTHOUSAND RU ... COMPRISING  
4120 GRANT 25880 LOAN AGAINST SECURITY REPAYABLE FIFTEEN YEARS STOP  
THEIR ASSIGNED AND DISSATISFIED WITH SCHEME APPEAL MOST STRONGLY  
FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSIDER SCHEME EITHER REHABILITATIVE FOR EQUITABLE STOP  
THE GOVERNMENT'S SCHEME FOR TELEGRAPH ADVISE STOP REGARDING REBUILDING BOYS  
SCHOOL GOVERNMENT PAYING ONE THIRD ESTIMATED COST 300000 RUPEES UNABLE  
TO GET BALANCE LOCALLY  
GOVERNMENT'S SCHEME FOR THE LITTLE

COPIES TO: Mr. Stephany  
Mr. S. Diamond

Prof. N. Bentwich



524800

11th November, 19

NOT RECD

Dear Harry,

I had your letter of October 1941 and was hoping that you would come to London, as Stephany said that he would try to get that arranged through the J.C.C. in Paris. Now it appears you are not coming and so I must write you briefly.

I am very glad that you did arrange finally with the Government about the emigration of the 3,200 from the Camp. That is a great achievement. I am glad too that you are making available the funds for business and housing loans immediately. Benin has been here and is naturally very upset. He had a little meeting this morning to consider what can be done with the Government here, but the atmosphere is not favourable.

As to the rebuilding of the schools, it was our view that the community should get ahead at once with the repair of the girls' school. That was what was decided. I was in Aden in March, and it is a job which can be done quickly and the funds necessary are available. The Government will contribute half and the C.B.F. money can be used for the other half. This promise of the founder to finance the rebuilding is not reliable. His objection to the building being used for the boys can not be upheld, since the trust deed which he made provides that the school is for the education of boys and girls.

At the same time we told Mr. Benin to get an estimate for the rebuilding of the boys' school as well, as that must be a big job, and it will not be easy now to get a contribution from the community because the richer people will receive no compensation at all from the Government. Still, if the Joint will make a substantial contribution, as you suggest, and you have 50,000 Rupees in view from some other quarter, and something will be available from the C.B.F. Grant, and the Government will make a contribution of one third, it should be possible to get the necessary funds together.



10 100

I agree with you that it is urgent to obtain a qualified headmaster with knowledge of English as well as Hebrew. I shall be in Jerusalem, I hope, before the end of the month and I will get my brother to look about for the right man and get Mrs. Levy to look about also for a woman teacher.

I look forward to seeing you when you are back from Iran.

Yours sincerely,

Norman Bentwich.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
9, Via di San Basilio,  
Rome.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

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CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting general letter #814.

November 4, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.I.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Reference is made to your letter dated October 8, 1948 addressed to Mr. Goldstein inquiring for what purpose the amount of £ 1,000 placed at the disposal of Mr. Viteles, through Mr. Braude on December 23, 1947 has been used.

We wrote yesterday to Mr. Viteles and as soon as we receive his reply we will inform you.

Sincerely yours,

  
ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ

AB/rk



AM/EG

5th November, 1948.

Dear Mr. Bentwich,

I have pleasure in enclosing herewith copy of the letter to Mr. Harry Viteles, and trust that you will find this in order.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
o/o Hebrew University,  
79, Portland Place,  
W.1.



52/300

AIR MAIL.

CK/LP

5th November, 1948.

Dear Mr. Shargo,

Ref: Your Account Letter # 779.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, and note the exchange of telegrams between Mr. Betensky and yourself.

From Mr. Betensky's telegram reading:

"RECEIVED POUNDS TWOTHOUSAND WHICH ASSURE  
ICAS CONTRIBUTION RECONSTRUCTION LOANS."

I take it that the amount of £2,000 has been used for granting reconstruction loans.

In this connection, I would like to point out that the ~~Central~~ of the Central British Fund to whom ICA made a grant of £2,000, earmarked this amount, together with £2,500 provided by the Central British Fund, for the reconstruction of schools which we consider of the utmost importance. Should, therefore, our remittance of the 8th instant have been used for other purposes, we shall ask you to replace it, ex your own funds, for the purpose of the reconstruction of schools which we hope will start very soon.

I shall be glad if you will confirm your agreement with the above.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S. Shargo, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique.



52/307

OK/IF

5th November, 1948.

NOTE RE: ADEN.

A meeting was held at the office of the Central British Fund on the 4th November 1948, to discuss the question of compensation for the victims of the Arab riots in Aden.

PRESENT: Mr. Benin For the Jewish Community in Aden.

Professor Bentwich, )  
Mr. Diamond, ) For the Anglo-Jewish Association.  
Mr. Temkin, )  
Dr. Warburg )

Mr. Barnett Janner ) " " Board of Deputies.  
Dr. Mowshowitch )

Mrs. Rose Henriques,  
Mr. M. Stephany,  
Mr. C. Kapralik.

Mr. Benin thanked the Central British Fund and the British Jewish Community for the material help given and the moral assistance extended to the Jewish Community in Aden.

Mr. Diamond then gave a report about the question of compensation. The total claims lodged amounted to approximately £1,000,000.

Mr. Batchgard, the special magistrate appointed by the Government, assessed the damage at £388,000 and recommended a total sum of £244,000. The Aden Government scaled it down to £200,000, but this proposal was turned down by the legislative Council. Although the Governor can over-ride the decision of the Council, it has not been done in this case. A scheme for Government assistance is attached to this note. In explaining it, Mr. Diamond pointed out that the maximum amount of grants given will be £300, the balance of claims being given in the form of loans. The total amount of a loan plus a grant must not exceed £2,000.

A Mr. Gopal, who always openly professed anti-Semitic sentiments, has been put in charge of the allocation of the grants and loans to the victims. Nothing will be paid to people who left Aden or who are living in the Hashid Camp, where the poorest Jews live who had to be evacuated from their homes as no protection was given them against their Arab neighbours.



52/308

They cannot return to Aden as they have nowhere to live and therefore, they will very probably be precluded from any indemnity. A further difficulty is that they are required to furnish security in the form of a mortgage on property or an equally satisfactory security, failing which, the surety of two responsible citizens. This again, will preclude many from obtaining help.

On the other hand, a condition for assistance is that evidence must be produced that a loan is needed to enable the individual to regain a reasonable livelihood. This again will debar those people who have not lost everything and still have some means left, from claiming compensation. [As the loans have to be applied for within three months, Mr. Benin requested the advice of those present, as to the attitude the members of the Committee should take. After some discussion, it was felt that the matter should be given a few days earnest consideration and Mr. Janner expressed his readiness to discuss the whole problem in all its aspects with Mr. Diamond and let us know his definite views.

The question of the schools in Aden was then discussed and Mr. Benin was requested to advise the Committee to obtain with the utmost despatch, estimates for the rebuilding of the girls' shhool, which are indispensable if the Government's subsidy is to be obtained. Mr. Benin mentioned that the donor expressed his disagreement ~~in~~at the school also being used for the teaching of boys, but Professor Bentwich and Mr. Diamond expressed the view that as the property was vested in a Trust, the donors have no say in this question.

Mr. Benin was also requested to urge the Community to submit estimates for the rebuilding of the boys' school, when the girls' school had been completed.

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## AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR ITALY

9 Via di San Basilio

R O M E

Offices in:

Rome

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Bari

Florence

Genoa

Naples

Triest

Louis D. Horwitz

Director

In your reply please refer to:

Date 6 November 1948

To: A.J.D.C., Paris - attn. Mr. Alexander Berkowitz

From: Mr. Harry Viteles - A.J.D.C., Rome.  
Re: Aden and CBF.

With reference to your letter of the 3 November 1948 received on 6th November 1948.

The £ 1,000 was distributed in equal amounts to the Jewish Emergency Committee for Aden Community and to the Hashed Camp. By referring to the report on my visit to Aden in January, 1948 and to the report on my visit in October, 1948 which will be sent to Paris in a few days, you will find in the analysis of the Jewish Emergency Committee's accounts, the £ 500 from the CBF.

The £ 500 which was given to the Hashed Camp was used to defray part of the additional expenditures which the Hashed Camp had when it accepted on Government instructions another 1500 Yemenite refugees.

4323

Very truly yours,

HV/bf

Harry Viteles



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

52/310

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
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JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting general letter #849

November 18, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We are referring to your enquiry of October 8, 1948 concerning the £ 1,000 which you have made available through Mr. I. Braude to be used as assistance for refugees in Aden.

We have contacted Mr. Viteles and we are enclosing a copy of his reply to us.

As soon as we receive a further report from Mr. Viteles we will again contact you.

  
ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ

AB/rk

ENC. (1)



5-211

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

23rd November, 1948.

Dear Mr. Berkowitz,

We thank you for your letter of the 18th instant, reference: Accounting general letter # 849, enclosing copy of a letter received from Mr. Viteles, dated 6th idem.

May we point out that the amount of £1,000 was intended exclusively for relief in Aden and not for the Hashed Camp. We would, therefore, be obliged if you would place at the disposal of your Administrator in Aden the amount of £500 on our behalf, for purposes covered by our grants.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A. Berkowitz, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



40E N

521312

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

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PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

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CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

November 25, 1948

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Toburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany:

I refer to your letter of November 5th addressed to  
Mr. Shargo concerning the CBF and JCA reconstruction  
appropriations. I will save this up and we will talk  
about it next time I see you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

HK/fc



# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
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CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting General letter #891

December 1, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Reference is made to your letter dated November 23, 1948 concerning the amount of £ 1,000 which you placed at the disposal of Mr. Viteles thru Mr. Braude in December, 1947 for the program in Aden.

You are quite correct in claiming credit for the amount of £ 500 in view of the fact that out of the £ 1,000 intended for the Aden Community, Mr. Viteles used £ 500 for the Hashed Camp. As soon as we receive full reports from Mr. Viteles on the actual use of the funds in Aden and the Hashed Camp, we will take into consideration the use of the above funds when making the accounting with you.

We would like to mention that thus far, we transmitted for your account to Aden, the amount of ..... £ 5,800.

Against which, you reimbursed..... 4,150

Leaving a balance due us from you, of ..... £ 1,650.

*received from  
£1000 remitted  
to be used for current  
work*

AB/RK

Sincerely yours,

*Alexander Berkowitz*  
ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ



5/23/4

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With kindest personal regards,

cc. Hebrew University  
Jerusalem

Yours sincerely  
*Harry Witeles*  
Harry Witeles

W/bf



52135

Adew

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

8th December, 1948.

Dear Mr. Berkowitz,

Your Ref: Accounting General Letter # 891.

I thank you for your letter of the 1st instant, contents of which I have noted.

You will have heard in the meantime from Mr. Katzki that we discussed the question of our remittance of \$2,000, on the 16th October last, and explained to him that this amount would have to be allocated by you, either towards the reconstruction of the Girls' School or towards general purposes, as your assumption that the amount could be used towards reconstruction loans, was erroneous.

We feel that it would simplify matters if the amount was used towards general relief and reconstruction purposes and we shall be glad to hear from you in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Alexander Berkowitz, Esq., Secretary.  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.





# ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1871-5631

*President:*

LEONARD STEIN

*Vice-Presidents*

~~THE VISCOUNT BEARSTED, M.C.~~

L. G. MONTEFIORE, O.B.E.

NEVILLE LASKI, K.C.

*Treasurer*

S. I. SALMON

*Secretary:* S. D. TEMKIN

WOBURN HOUSE (FIFTH FLOOR)

UPPER WOBURN PLACE

LONDON . . . W.C.1

*Telephones:* EUSTON 1331 & 7713

14th December, 1948.

Mr. S. D. Temkin, Secretary,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Temkin,

Mr. Stein has received a letter from Mr. Benin,  
in which he asked me to send you a copy.

We should be grateful if you would keep us  
informed of any further developments, in particular  
with regard to the schools.

Yours sincerely,

*M. Harburg*

M. Harburg



52/37

COPY

London,

4.12.48.

President A.J.A.

Dear Mr. L. Stein,

Your letter dated 16/11 in hand, and I have duly contacted your office to arrange for an interview which was nearly fixed and then cancelled by phone giving reasons that your honour was unwell in bed. Since then I was awaiting for another interview which up-to-date not done.

However, as I am now ready to fly back to Aden in about three days time, I am confident that your Association of which your honour is the president, will continue to help the victims of the riots. The anniversary of the 3 days riots is due this week in which special prayers is being held at Aden in memory of those killed.

After a year of sufferance, the Jews of Aden came to know of the little chance in getting the compensation, and the situation is now rather clear that some help should come from outside.

The very first aid, the Aden Community requires are:

- (1) The building of the burnt schools.
- (2) An administrator preferably from England to represent the community in the Government and for social affairs, until the people be able to stand on their feet.

There is a heavy task in front of us and the difficulties could be overcome if Anglo-Jewry to whom we belong as one family, rush help to rebuild the schools, houses, etc. so that everything returns to normal without any further delays.

Please do write often the Aden Community, and on my arrival I shall explain to my people the good intentions and help that will kindly be given by the Anglo-Jewry, and may God bless you all, Amen.

Yours sincerely,  
(sd). S. M. Banin.



# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

TELEPHONE

87-83

INVALIDES 87-65

79-37

CAIRES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting general letter #922

December 14, 1948.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

With further reference to our Accounting letter #662 of August 10, 1948 and #891 of December 1, 1948 we would like to give you a recapitulation of the amounts which we paid to the Aden community for your account:-

|            |       |                |   |
|------------|-------|----------------|---|
| For May    | ..... | £ 1,900        | (erroneously reported to you, originally as £ 2,050. Since then we have been advised that £ 150 were expended for our own account and not for yours). |
| For June   | ..... | 2,100          |   |
| " July     | ..... | 1,800          |   |
| " October  | ..... | 770            |   |
| " November | ..... | 745            |   |
|            |       | <u>£ 7,315</u> |   |

Against the £ 7,315 you reimbursed us for £ 4,150 leaving a balance due to us from you of £ 3,165 which we will appreciate if you will pay to our London office.

As far as the October and November payments are concerned, we wish to inform you that we have just received cable advice from Mr. Viteles regarding these two items.

Sincerely yours,

  
ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ

AB/RK

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal; the United Jewish Refugee & War Relief Agencies, Canada; the Central British Fund; the Junta de Ayuda pro Victimas de la Guerra, Argentina; United Jewish Overseas Relief Fund, Australia; Compana Unida Reconstruccion Ayuda, Mexico, and others.



52/319

15th December, 1948

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Warburg,

I have your letter of the 14th instant together with the enclosure.

When I saw Mr. Banin, I impressed upon him that what was now awaited was a definite estimate from the Jewish Emergency Committee of the cost of repairing both the boys and girls schools and that until this information was placed in the hands of the Governor, there was no possibility of getting them to carry out their promise to contribute towards the cost of re-establishing these two buildings.

We are doing all we can to press matters from this end and as soon as I have any further information, I shall, of course, be happy to pass it on to you.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

G. Warburg, Esq.,  
Anglo-Jewish Association,  
Woburn House, W.C.1.



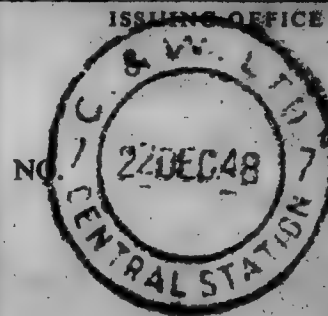
# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

RECEIVED PARTICULARS

J00 CPY YN

VIA IMPERIAL

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.



SENT BY

BY

CW DNSA952 H0110 ADEN 39 21 2158 -

NLT MIGRATE LONDON -

COMMUNITY COMMEMORATING TOMORROW JEWISH

ANNIVERSARY OF POGROMS BY PRAYERS AND

SUPPLICATION STOP THANKS FOR PAST AND CONTINUED

ASSISTANCE TILL CAUSE REDRESSED STOP COMMUNITIES

DETERIORATING STATE CALLS



# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

ISSUING OFFICE

52/324

NO.

RECEIVED PARTICULARS

MIG DNSA352 P2

VIA AIRMAIL

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.

SENT OUT

BY

**CW**

**FOR RELIEF ESPECIALLY REBUILDING SCHOOL**

**HOUSES REHABILITATION -**

**JEWISH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE +**



521322  
24th December, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Mr. Temkin,

I am writing to confirm that Mr. Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee will be coming to Woburn House at 4.30 p.m. on Monday the 3rd January next to meet members of the Council of the Central British Fund. The meeting will take place in the Council Room of Jews' College and I very much hope that a representative of the Anglo Jewish Association will be able to be present.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S.D. Temkin, Esq.,  
Anglo Jewish Association,  
Woburn House.



52/373

24th December, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Colonel Samuel,

Mr. Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee is coming to London at the beginning of next month and has agreed to give a report on the situation in Aden to some members of the Council.

It has therefore been arranged for him to meet one or two people in the Council Room of Jews' College, Woburn House on Monday the 3rd January next at 4.30 p.m. and I very much hope that you will be able to be present.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Colonel F.D. Samuel, C.B.E., D.S.O.,  
15, Orchard Court,  
W. 1.



2/24

24th December, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Mr. Sacher,

Mr. Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee is coming to London at the beginning of next month and has agreed to give a report on the situation in Aden to some members of the Council.

It has therefore been arranged for him to meet one or two people in the Council Room of Jews' College, Woburn House on Monday the 3rd January next at 4.30 p.m. and I very much hope that you will be able to be present.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Harry Sacher, Esq.,  
37, Grosvenor Square,  
W. 1.



50.25  
24th December, 1948.

IP/FV

Mr. de Roth child,

Mr. Vitale, the Director of the American Joint Distribution Committee, who has been looking after the situation in Aden is coming to London at the end of next week and will be pleased to give a report to some of the members of the Council on the situation there including how our money is being spent and what it is proposed for the future.

In view of the fact that you are going to Liverpool after our official meeting on the 4th January, and as Mr. Vitale is a valuable person, I have arranged for him to meet some members of the Council, such as Colonel Gabel, Mr. L.G. Montefiore, Mr. Oscar Joseph and also representatives from the Board of Deputies and the Anglo Jewish Association, both of which Organizations are interested in the Aden situation, at a meeting which will be held in the Council Room of Jews' College on Monday the 3rd January. I am writing to advise you of this in case you might like and be able to be present.

With all good wishes for 1949,

Yours sincerely,

Anthony de Roth child, Esq.,  
New Court,  
St. Swithin's Lane,  
E. C. 4.

Secretary.



c 2/326

24th December, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Mr. Montefiore,

Mr. Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee is coming to London at the beginning of next month and has agreed to give a report on the situation in Aden to some members of the Council.

It has therefore been arranged for him to meet one or two people in the Council Room of Jews' College, Woburn House on Monday the 3rd January next at 4.30 p.m. and I very much hope that you will be able to be present.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Leonard G. Montefiore, Esq.,  
Hopedene,  
Holmbury St. Mary,  
Dorking, Surrey.



52/321

24th December, 1948.

MS/FW

Dear Mr. Levy,

I am writing to confirm that Mr. Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee will be coming to Woburn House at 4.30 p.m. on Monday the 3rd January next to meet members of the Council of the Central British Fund. The meeting will take place in the Council Room of Jews' College, and I very much hope that a representative of the Board of Deputies will be able to be present.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

N. Levy, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
Woburn House.



24th December, 1948.

IP/FW

Dear Mr. Joseph,

This is just a note to confirm the arrangements we made over the telephone regarding the meeting to hear Mr. Viteles' report in the Council Room of Jews' College on Monday the 3rd January at 4.30 p.m.

Yours sincerely,

H. Oscar Joseph, Esq.,  
Messrs. Leopold Joseph & Sons,  
7 & 8, Princes Street,  
E. C. 2.

Secretary.



52/2

24th December, 1948.

IP/FW

Dear Mr. Diamond,

I have pleasure in informing you that Mr. Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee will be in London shortly and has agreed to give a report on the situation in Aden to a group of interested people.

It has therefore been arranged to hold a meeting in the Council Room of Jews' College, Woburn House on Monday the 3rd January next at 4.30. p.m., and I very much hope that you will be able to attend.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A. S. Diamond, Esq.,  
3, Temple Gardens,  
E. C. 4.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

5 2/330  
TELEPHONE  
87-83  
INVALIDES } 87-55  
79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

December 27, 1948

The Central British Fund  
Auburn House  
Upper Auburn Place  
London W.C.1.

Dear Sirs:

Attention of Mr. M. Stephany

Mr. Oscar Joseph has written to us requesting a copy of Mr. Viteles' report on his recent trip to Aden. We are accordingly enclosing herein a copy of that report for the confidential information of your office. Obviously the material and comments made therein should not be disseminated.

As you look at the report you will see that pages 53 through 59 are lacking. This section had to do with some internal JDC matters and consequently has been left out from the report part of the material which is of interest to you.

Will you please in due course let Mr. Joseph know that we have sent the report on to you so that he will know it has been received.

Yours sincerely,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki  
Secretary

HK/hf  
Enc.

*I should have mentioned  
that you, too, asked for this  
report some time ago.  
Happy New Year*





**199, PICCADILLY,**

**LONDON, W.1.**

## ENGLAND

27/1/19

Julius H. H., 1917.

10: 11. 1968. 100-110. 100-110. 100-110.

FROM: THE DIRECTOR, FBI

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Justice".

1. In the first, the wine is made from the grapes of the vine. In the second, the wine is made from the grapes of the vine.

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1) Expenses incurred in or U.B.F. in Aden up to November 30th, 1948. |                |
| (a). Expenses up to November 1, 1948 for 1948 local.                 | \$200.0.0d     |
| (b). Expenses up to November, 1948: (General)                        |                |
| General expenses   | 35,380.        |
| Medical expenses   | 2,211.         |
| Food, etc.)  | 19,507.        |
| Clothing   | 9,780.         |
| Education (scholarships, etc.)                                       |                |
| Transportation   | 8,795.         |
| Total  | 106,142.       |
| (c). Expenses incurred in Palestine for supplies:                    |                |
| Citrus, vegetables, oil, etc.  | 940.0.0d.      |
| Local supplies   | 780.0.0d.      |
|  | \$10,020.0.0d. |
| Reimbursed to date by U.B.F.   | 4,150.0.0d.    |
| Bal. to be reimbursed to UNRWA                                       | \$ 5,870.0.0d. |

2) Re Bulletin, 11 Dec. 01.

(3). 10% Contribution of \$2,000.

There is no misunderstanding about the purposes for which A.C.F. gave the part of \$2,000. for C.B.F. It was only an understanding that the \$2,000. was intended for the loan fund. Therefore we actually have committed the \$2,000. in addition to the \$14,000. which the JDC had allocated for loans. However since we have now been advised that the \$2,000. was intended for the reconstruction of the School, I have been informed by Mr. Alexander Benbowitz of the accounting Department of our European Headquarters, Paris, (in his letter No. 954 of December 28, 1940) that "Dr. Schwartz agreed that, if the money is not used for the school, it will be refunded to the C.B.F."



3) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00

but 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00  
its 10,000.00

a

10,000.00 used

10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00

- (a) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
- (b) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
- (c) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
- (d) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
- (e) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00

- 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
- (a) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
  - (b) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00
  - (c) 10,000.00 100,000.00 1,000,000.00



32/333

Harry White



52/34

CK/LP

19th January, 1949.

Dear Mr. Diamond,

Mr. Joseph informed me that you would like to study Mr. Viteles' report. I therefore enclose it herewith, and shall be obliged if you will let me have it back by the end of the week as we shall need it for the next meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.S. Diamond, Esq.,  
3, Temple Gardens,  
E.C.4.



HAMPSTEAD 4201.

51. MARESFIELD GARDENS,  
LONDON, N.W.3.

52/335

20 Jan 1949.

Dear Stephany,

Thank you for the report  
of Mr. Viteler which I received  
today and have read.

The Aden community is  
difficult to deal with, but I  
do not think I have ever seen  
anything so remarkable as the  
Questionnaire that the girl pupil-  
teachers were asked to complete  
by the headmaster sent from Israel.



52/2360  
these girls live so secluded a life  
that they rarely speak to the  
man they marry before the wedding.  
To ask them (see Exhibit 6)

"Who loves you most - mother or father and why? Do you have night dreams and about what? -

Are you worried (afraid) about married life? Have you ever loved a man; do you still love him; does he know you love him? Do you like him or the contrary? Have you a bearing to any special matter & what is it?.... No wonder the parents rose in their wrath.

I am often tempted to do the same when I hear too much of American efficiency. Yours sincerely A. S. Diamond.



351

MS/AC

24th January, 1949

Dear Diamond,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 20th instant and thank you for returning the report from Viteles on Aden.

I am afraid that you must have found this very dry reading but perhaps the monotony was relieved a little by the questionnaire put to the girl pupil-teachers. I quite agree with you with regard to your estimate of American efficiency.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.S. Diamond, Esq.,  
51, Maresfield Gardens,  
London, N.W.3.



JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ADEN.

52/138

At the beginning of January, Mr. Harry Viteles of the American Joint Distribution Committee visited London and the position in Aden was discussed in detail with the Secretariat of the Central British Fund. Mr. Viteles also reported on the position in the near East to a small meeting at which representatives of the Board of Deputies for British Jews, the Anglo-Jewish Association and also the Chairman and a few members of <sup>the Council of</sup> the Central British were present.

Mr. Viteles reported that the Jews in Aden have not yet recovered from the psychological shock of the entirely unexpected pogrom in December 1947. ~~There is a widespread apathy and a noticeable lack of will to help themselves.~~ <sup>He was</sup> Mr. Viteles ~~is~~ <sup>the</sup> afraid that a repetition of events of December 1947 ~~is not out of the question~~ <sup>was not to be excluded</sup> and for many reasons the position ~~is~~ far from being reassuring. [The Jewish Community ~~had~~ suffered heavy loss of property and what ~~was~~ even more serious, of sources of income. At present there ~~were~~ 5,000 Jews in Aden of whom 3,700 ~~were~~ "Adenite" Jews and approximately 1,300 "Yemenite" Jews. The position of the Yemenite Jews ~~was~~ unfortunately that of pariahs of the Jewish Community. The Aden Jews look down on them and they would not even accept their representatives as members of the Jewish Emergency Committee. Only upon pressure from the Joint, the Jewish Emergency Committee agreed to admit two Yemenite Jews to meetings, at which questions concerning the Yemenites ~~were~~ discussed, but without the right to vote.

The total amount of claims for damages put forward by the Community amounted to £1,000,000. The special magistrate appointed by the Government assessed the damage at £388,000 and recommended a total sum of £244,000. The Aden Government scaled it down to £200,000, but even this proposal was turned down by the Legislative Council. Although the Governor could over-ride the decision of the Council, he has not done so. In the event a scheme for Government assistance was adopted which provided a maximum amount of grants of £300, the balance of claims being given in the form of loans; the total amount of a loan plus a grant, however, must not exceed £2,000 in each individual case. Apart from the fact that the limitation of the scheme would mean that many people would receive only a fraction of the ~~money~~ damage sustained, the conditions attached to the



52/39

granting of loans were such as to preclude most people from benefiting at all from this scheme.

The publication of the scheme deepened the sense of apathy and self-pity already prevailing in the Community. The whole position ~~was~~ aggravated by a lack of initiative and the will ~~to~~ help themselves on the part of the Jewish Community. Although this must be viewed against the background of heavy economic losses and the constant fear of a repetition of the pogroms, the present psychological attitude of the Adenite Jews ~~is~~ not at all helpful <sup>towards</sup> in safe-guarding the future of the Community.   
 *There ~~was~~ a marked tendency to rely more on foreign relief than on attempting to contribute towards the rebuilding of the Community by their own efforts.*

The amounts allocated by the American Joint Distribution Committee in 1948 for relief and rehabilitation were spent completely and the following amounts were spent on behalf of the Central British Fund:-

|  |                 |                        |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|
| (a) Prior to April 1948 for Medical and Relief Purposes    |                 | £ 1,200. 0. 0.         |
| (b) April to November 1948:                                |                 | (Rupees)               |
| Relief in Kind   | 65,380.         |                        |
| Milk   | 2,911.          |                        |
| Hospital (medicaments, food, etc.)                         | 19,307.         |                        |
| Cloth  | 9,750.          |                        |
| Education (furniture, equipment, subsidies to two schools) | 8,794.          |                        |
|  | <u>106,142.</u> | 8,100. 0. 0.           |
| (c) Spent in Palestine for supplies:                       |                 |                        |
| Citrus Concentrates, oil etc.                              |                 | 940. 0. 0.             |
| Medical Supplies   |                 | 780. 0. 0.             |
|  |                 | <u>£ 11,020. 0. 0.</u> |

The relations between the Jewish Community and the Joint representatives were, as the Secretariat reported to the meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund held on the 11th October, 1948, not very happy. This was partly due to the attitude of the Community, but the A.J.D.C. freely admit <sup>were</sup> that their representatives ~~are~~ not free of ~~blame~~ blame and that a more harmonious collaboration might have been achieved if the Joint representatives had shown ~~a~~ more understanding of the peculiarities of the outlook of an oriental Jewish Community.

At present there ~~is~~ <sup>was</sup> apart from one nurse at the hospital,



52/340

no Joint personnel at Aden. The Head Teacher and Administrator (see note E. of the papers submitted to the meeting of the Council held on the 11th October 1948) had left and the Joint have been, up to now, unsuccessful in their endeavours to replace them.

For the year 1949 the A.J.D.C. suggest that no further monies should be ~~provided~~ <sup>provided</sup> for pure relief purposes/voted in order to force the Community to make an effort to stand on their own feet. They recommend, however, the following budget for 1949:-

(A) Medical Expenditure: £6,000. 0. 0.

To provide for the cost of two nurses to be sent to Aden, the salary of a visiting doctor (there is a very good ~~Païse~~ doctor in Aden), for the distribution of medicaments and preventive foods (citrus concentrates)

(B) Secular Education: 3,600. 0. 0.

To cover the salary of the Headmaster and Headmistress, the salaries of the local teachers to be paid by the Community.

(C) ~~Trade Education~~ <sup>Technical Training</sup>: 5,400. 0. 0.

This which sum would cover the salaries of Trade Teachers for two years. The A.J.D.C. consider it particularly important to cover the budget for Trade Education for a period of two years.

(D) Reconstruction, Loans and Grants. 12,000. 0. 0.

£27,000. 0. 0.

Apart from the above, the cost of the Administrator in Aden will have to be provided. The A.J.D.C. request the Central British Fund to provide the items A,B, and C. and they would provide the item D. and further pay the salary of the Administrator and cover the travelling cost of all the personnel.

BUILDING OF SCHOOL.

Members of the Council will recollect that at the meeting held on the 31st May, 1948, an amount of £4,500 was voted for the rebuilding of the Girls' School (out of which £2,000 were provided by the I.C.A.) The A.J.D.C. is of the opinion that it would be more expeditious and less troublesome if the boys' school was rebuilt in accordance with the plans to be approved, which plans would provide for special rooms for Trade Classes. The girls could receive their education in the same



52/341

building at separate hours. The cost of rebuilding the school is estimated at about £24,000 towards which the Government would be prepared to contribute £8,000. The Benin family would contribute £4,000 ~~The Ben~~ and in the opinion of the Joint it should be possible to collect £3,000 from Adenite Jews in Israel, Asmara and Aden. They request the C.B.F. to agree that the amount of £4,500 earmarked for the rebuilding of the girls' school be used for the rebuilding of the boys' school, in which case the Joint would be prepared to contribute the balance of £4,500.

The implementation of the medical and educational programme depends to a large extent on the possibility to recruit the necessary personnel and any vote the Council may wish to make should be made dependant on this.

CK/P

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26.1.1949.



52/365

PCB 221  
Tel Aviv.

Mr. Oscar Joseph,  
7 & 8, Princes Street,  
London, W. C. 2.  
ENGLAND.

February 1st, 1949.

Dear Mr. Joseph,

With further reference to the last paragraph of my letter of January 24th 1949. You will be interested in the following extracts from a personal letter which I received from the C.M.C., - a very decent chap and a good friend. I also have sent copies to Dr. Schwartz.

"If you are pulling out of Aden what about the hospital? It looks as if we will have to close down at the end of March for lack of funds. Theoretically there is no reason why out-patient and in-patient treatment should not be given at the Government Hospital, as it was before, but you know that such a step would be a setback to the social welfare of the Jewish Community.

The Government Hospital could cope with the in-patients, apart from TB cases, but I am far from happy about the out-patient facilities. The Emergency Hospital has proved a great boon to the poor and the old, two classes of persons who are unlikely to receive much attention from the local inhabitants. In an overcrowded hospital or dispensary out-patient department they would be pushed well to the back of the mob.

My main difficulty would be in finding accommodation for the TB cases of whom we have 17. There simply is no room for them in the Government Hospital and they would have to be returned to their homes while the homeless would be left in the streets. Apart from the public health and humanitarian aspect of the problem, it would be a grievous thing to interrupt their treatment. We are getting excellent results and, given time, most of the 17 will recover.

I understand the Central British Fund has been supplying money for this hospital and I would like to know if there is any



possibility of this assistance being continued.

You know how much it costs so I do not need to give any detailed account but I think we could very well cut it from the present £425. to about £300 p.m. If it was kept for TB cases only, the monthly cost could be brought down to £200."

2. You will be interested to learn that thus far we already have moved by plan about 2,800 of the 3,900 Yemenites in the Mashia Camp. We should finish the transfer of the other 1,400 within ten days. We then will start on about 8-100 Yemenites who live in the Crater (Aden).

The Aden Government also have agreed to permit 100.0 Adenite Jews to leave Aden for Israel provided they will sign a declaration that they are leaving of their own free will.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Harry Viteles.



52/344

2nd February, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

Your letter of the 24th January arrived yesterday. I am now enclosing copy of Dr. Segal's report on North Africa and am asking for a further copy to be sent to Paris.

There was a meeting of the C.B.F. Council yesterday at which further grants were made for ADEN on the lines indicated by you. You will doubtless be hearing further details from Paris. Iran and Irak were not discussed and will probably be coming up at the next Meeting. Although I cannot anticipate the Council's decision, I think it unlikely that we shall be able to spare funds for work in those countries. Nevertheless we should of course like to have a copy of your report on Persia.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

1 Enc.

H. O. Joseph.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
TEL AVIV.



52/345

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, February 2nd, 1949 תל-אביב  
Mr. Myer Stephany,  
The Central British Fund for Jewish  
Relief and Rehabilitation,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, LONDON. W.C.1.

52/10/7534

Dear Stephany,

Re: ADEN COMMUNITY

I would appreciate a word from you about the action taken, or which will be taken, on my letter to you of the 4th ultimo.

1. Mr. Schweid, whom we have sent to Aden to finish issuing the business loans and to look into the question of the hospital, school, etc., reports that the plans and estimates for the rebuilding of the Boys' School have been completed. The total cost of the building is estimated at Rs. 300,000 and there are reasonable prospects that the Government will participate with one-third of the costs and a maximum of Rs. 100,000.

2. I am today writing to AJDC Paris to ask whether they will participate with £.4,000 mentioned in paragraph 3 of my above mentioned letter. Can we count on the CBF for the £.4,500 which was originally earmarked for the repair and expansion of the Girls School?

3. I quote below cable received today from Mr. Abramovitch :-

"VITELES JOINTFUND TELAVIV NLT  
CANCEL LETTER NOW AGREE TO GO YOU ARRANGE  
LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM YOUTH ALIYAH WITH  
KOL AWAITING REPLY ABRAMOVITZ"

I am communicating with Mr. Kol of the Youth Aliyah Department and will advise you of his decision in due course.

4. We have already brought to Israel nearly 3,200 Yemenite refugees from the Hashid Camp and we are awaiting for London's decision about the emigration of the 700 men of military age. The Governor of Aden refused to permit the immigration of the 700 men in spite of Mr. Bevin's announcement. The AJDC has agreed also to pay for the transportation of all of the other genuine Yemenite refugees who are living in the Crater, Aden, and whose number is estimated at about 1,000. The Aden Kehilla is pressing the AJDC to pay for the transportation expenses of about 1,000 Adenites, most of whom are sufferers from the December 1947 pogroms and cannot readjust themselves. The Aden Government will approve



52/346

CONTINUATION SHEET

Mr.M.Stephany

- 2 -

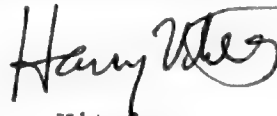
2.2.1949

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their emigration provided they sign declarations that they are leaving of their own free will. I have written to Dr. Schwartz about this question. Even if the 1,000 Adenites emigrate there is still the need for the medical and secular education and trade education programs for the Aden Community and perhaps also for additional rehabilitation loans.

I look forward to your early visit to Israel. With personal regards.

Cordially yours,



Harry Viteles

HV:LLF



52/347

AIR MAIL

CK/IP

4th February, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

X  
I am enclosing copy of our letter of even date to the American Joint Distribution Committee, Paris, from which you will see that the Council of the Central British Fund, at their meeting held on the 1st instant, voted a grant of £3,000 to cover medical expenditure and £2,700 to cover the cost of technical training (trade education), for a period of one year. After six months the whole Aden position will again come up for review by the Council in the light of experience gained and the financial position of the Central British Fund as at that time.

It seems to us that it is most important to find a suitable Administrator for Aden. I hope that it will be possible to prevail upon Mr. S. Abramovitz to accept the position which would prove a very good solution of the problem. In the meantime, I am sure that you yourself are also on the lookout for a suitable candidate and that your endeavours to provide nursing and teaching personnel will prove successful.

Re: Iran and Iraq.

We shall be most interested to receive, in due course, your written report on the above countries, which will of course be treated in strict confidence.

I hope to see you in London again very soon.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
Tel-Aviv. ISRAEL.

Secretary.



12/1348

AIR MAIL

CK/IR 14th February, 1949.

American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Jewish Community in Aden.

With reference to our conversation with Mr. Viteles during his stay in London at the beginning of January last, we have pleasure in informing you that the Council of the Central British Fund, at their meeting held on the 1st instant, carefully considered the written report and oral information given by Mr. Viteles.

It was decided to make a grant of £3,000 to cover medical expenditure for six months and a further grant of £2,700 to cover the cost of technical training (trade education), for a period of one year. These grants are made on the assumption that it will be possible to solve satisfactorily the question of the necessary personnel to be sent to Aden.

After a period of six months, the Council will review the position in the light of the report they hope to receive from you of the work done in Aden and also in the light of the financial position of the Central British Fund as at that time.

We should be obliged if you would keep us informed whether your endeavours to find an efficient Administrator for Aden are successful. As promised to Mr. Viteles, we on our part, are also trying to find a suitable candidate.

We are hoping that Mr. Abramowicz will be available.

/over



2/2/49

- 2 -

Re: School Buildings in Aden.

In accordance with the suggestion submitted by Mr. Viteles, the Council of the Central British Fund agree that the grant of £4,500 originally earmarked for rebuilding the Girls' School be used for the reconstruction of the Boys' School, provided that the necessary means to complete the work can be secured.

Re: Iran and Iraq.

Mr. Viteles' statement on the position of the Jews in the above countries, was considered by the Council and it was noted that Mr. Viteles had recommended a programme of work for Iran for 1949, involving an expenditure of \$240,000 to cover the cost of secular and religious education, medical activities, technical training, clothing and school lunches.

It was felt that the Council could not make a grant at this juncture, the more as we understand from Mr. Viteles that the American Joint Distribution Committee has not, as yet, approved the above budget.

We shall, however, be glad to hear from you about the programme of work in Iran on which you finally may decide.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

We are hoping that Mr. Abramowitz will be available.



52/250

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

המשרד למזרח התיכון ולבalkans OFFICE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND BALKANS

ש. פסמן, מנהל הכללי CHARLES PASSMAN, DIRECTOR

ADVISORY COMMITTEE :

Judah L. Magnes, Chairman  
Harry S. Davidowitz  
Harry Viteles

Henrietta Szold

Julius Simon  
Charles Passman

Israel Kligler

Jerusalem, February 7th, 1949 ירושלים  
P.O.B. 334 . PHONE 4304 ת.ד. 334 . טלפון 4304

הוועדה המייעצת:

י.ל. מאגנס, יושב ראש

ש.צ. דוידוביץ

צבי ויטלס

גב' ה. סולד

יוליוס סימון

ש. פסמן

ישראל קליגלר

Mr. Myer Stephany,  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1

4/8/49

My dear Stephany,

I have now read the report of Viteles on his visit to Aden in October, and also his letter to you of January 4th, 1949, with the proposals for the contribution of the C.B.F. for the Aden Community.

I have had a letter from Dr. Cochrane, the principal medical officer of Aden, about the maintenance of the Jewish Emergency Hospital, and I enclose a copy of that letter. Dr. Cochrane has done splendid service for the Jews since the troubles, and as Viteles and I can both testify, he is a steadfast friend. He is most anxious that there should be an early decision about the Hospital because he wants everything fixed up before he leaves Aden, which may be soon.

I support the recommendation of Viteles that the C.B.F. should provide for the maintenance of the Hospital for another year. The amount, however, which Viteles estimated in the budget for 1949 on account of the hospital (in his letter to you para. 5a), namely, £ 6,000.-, appears excessive. Viteles tells me that the J.D.C. will bear the cost of the milk and also most of the drugs, so that Dr. Cochrane's estimate of £ 300.- per month would seem to be adequate. Cochrane says that £ 30.- to 35.- is paid by the local Community, and in that case, the liability of the C.B.F. would be about £ 3,000.- to 3,500.-.

(2) I support the recommendation that the C.B.F. should ~~supply~~ apply the £ 4,200.- which it had allocated for education, including the £ 2,000.- from the J.C.A., to the rebuilding of the boys' school. Although I had previously urged the rebuilding of the girls' school, which could be done much quicker and at a much smaller cost, in view of all the obstruction, it should be best to proceed now with the other school. It appears from the report of Viteles that there has still been no estimate of the cost of reconstruction. That ought to be prepared, immediately; it is already nearly 15 months since the school was burnt down.

PS. Viteles  
tells me  
that a C.B.F.  
can not  
pay 3,000 for  
this. Good.



52/351

- page 2 -

(3) As to the recommendation of Viteles re grant by the C.B.F. of £ 3,600.- for secular education, I think it is desirable that the C.B.F. should provide the salaries for two head teachers for the boys' and the girls' school, but there should be a definite undertaking by the Aden Community in that case that they will provide themselves the rest of the budget for the boys' school, and it appears from the report of Viteles that that has not yet been given,

Viteles' estimate of £ 900.- for the girls' school covers the subsidy for a period of 18 months, and the provision for technical education is for two years. I gather that Abramovitch may be available as administrator in Aden. He would be able to exercise a general supervision over the education in both the boys' and the girls' schools until qualified head teachers are appointed. I would suggest that he should be directly responsible to the C.B.F., for the medical and education work in Aden, should send monthly reports to them, and should receive the direction of the C.B.F. as regards ~~these~~ services. I have discussed that matter with Viteles and he thinks an arrangement could be made on these lines. It is, I think, desirable that the Anglo-Jewish Community should be in a position to make recommendations about this part of the rehabilitation of the Aden Community, and where it seems advisable communicate directly with the Aden Government. The administrator would be responsible exclusively to the J.D.C. in matters of loans and grants for which the J.D.C. is providing the funds.

The report of Viteles does indicate that the money given last year for relief was a doubtful benefit, as it tended to pauperise the community. However, that is all past history, and what is proposed for the C.B.F. now is a contribution for medical and educational services which are essential.

Sincerely yours,



NORMAN BENTWICH

NB/m



50 350

C o p y

of letter from Dr. E. Cochrane, S.M.O., Aden, to Professor Norman Bentwich

D.M.S. ADEN

3.1.49

My dear Bentwich,

The Joint is pulling out of Aden, so I am told, and it looks as if we will have to close down the Emergency Hospital for lack of funds. Theoretically there is no reason why out-patient and in-patient treatment should not be given at the Government Hospital, as it was before, but you know that such a step would be badly received by the Jewish community.

As far as general in-patients are concerned, I consider the Government Hospital would be able to cope with them, we still have our two Jewish wards in use and there is a clinic for maternity cases. I am not so happy about the out-patient care, for the Emergency Hospital, situated in the heart of the Jewish quarter, has proved a great boon to the poor and the old, two classes of persons who receive previous little in the way of kindness in the Middle East.

My great difficulty would be in finding accommodation for the TB case of whom we have 17. There is no room for them in the Government Hospital and they would have to be returned to their homes while the homeless would be left in the streets.

Apart from the public health and the humanitarian aspect of the problem, it would be a grievous thing to interrupt their treatment. We are getting excellent results and, given time, most of the 17 will recover. As it is only 25% of my Arab patients are in hospital so that beds are a problem.

I understand the Central British Fund has been supplying the money for this hospital and I would like to know if there is any possibility of this assistance being continued.

The present costs are, approximately,

|                               |      |           |
|-------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Medical Officer ( part- time) | £ 35 | per month |
| Matron                        | 70   | " "       |
| Drugs etc.                    | 70   | " "       |
| Dietary                       | 132  | " "       |
| 6 nursing attendants          | 20   | " "       |
| 5 menial staff                | 8    | " "       |
| Milk for needy out-patients   | 90   | " " £ 425 |

I consider £ 70 p.m. for a Matron pretty stiff if we could get a trained Jewish nursing sister from U.K. at £ 35 p.m. including rations, she would be on the same pay as the Government nursing sisters.

The milk outlay, very desirable, is no part of a hospital scheme, and should be met from other sources.

There is rent at £ 7/10 p.m. it never has been paid and I am all



52/353

for letting Mr. Shoa Menahim Joseph whistle for his money. By reducing these items, the monthly cost could be brought down to no more than £ 300 p.m. of which £ 30 to £ 35 is paid by the local community.

If we went to extremes and kept the hospital as a TB treatment centre only, the cost would be no more than £ 200 monthly, for we would cut out the doctor, I would visit as I did for 3 months before, on a voluntary basis and could reduce the drug bill and other items quite a lot.

(-) E. Cochrane

2



5. 134

7th February, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Abramovitch,

This opportunity serves to confirm what I think I told you on the telephone the other day, namely that the Joint Distribution Committee in Paris were waiting to get into touch with Mr. Fritz Lichtenstein with regard to your release from your work in London for the Youth Aliyah so that you might take up the position as Administrator of the funds being provided by the Joint Distribution Committee and the Central British Fund in Aden.

Mr. Melvin Goldstein of the Joint, told me that he would let me know as soon as he heard anything and I will, of course, communicate with you immediately I have any news. If they should communicate with you direct, would you please advise me at once.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

PRIVATE

S. Abramovitz, Esq.,  
The Youth Aliyah.  
32, Ledbury Road,  
London, W.11.

*sent to*  
*46 Russell Rd.*  
*W-10*



52/355

9th February, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

Thank you for your letter of the 1st February and for the various items of information contained therein.

As regards ADEN, I expect that by now you will have been informed of the grants that have been made at the last meeting of the Council of the C.B.F. and which included £3000 to cover the medical expenditure for the next 6 months and £2700 to cover the technical training for the next 12 months. I think that we are unlikely to be able to do more for the time being and the grant for the second half of the year will have to be considered in the light of the then prevailing circumstances and also taking into account our available resources.

I hope, however, that you will consider these sums adequate, especially bearing in mind that we are dependent on our collections from subscribers in this country and that, as you know, the Dominions subscribe directly to your programme.

Although it is not quite clear to me, I presume that the T.B. cases to which you refer will be covered by the grant that we have now made. I notice that your correspondent, the S.M.C., indicates that you could really cut the present budget for the EMERGENCY Hospital from £425 to about £300 p.m. and that out of this about £200 will be required for T.B. cases. If these figures are correct, then it would seem to me that the grant that we have made should last full well over six months even allowing that a certain sum will be required for the distribution of medicaments and preventive foods as outlined in your original proposition.

Perhaps you will let me have your further comments at your convenience.

I am also obliged for the particulars regarding the transfer of the Yemenites and I am glad that this work will shortly be completed. It is also satisfactory that a number of Adenite Jews are emigrating.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

H. O. Joseph.



MS/AC

9th February, 1949

Dear Mr. Joseph,

I return herewith the letter from Mr. Viteles regarding his proposals for Aden, after having taken a copy.

In accordance with your request, I enclose herewith a copy of the report of the interview which we had at the Home Office on the 6th December.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

H.O. Joseph, Esq.,  
7/8, Princes Street,  
London, E.C.2.



54/357

February 10, 1949

Mr. Ber 2120 80.

TO: ADIC Paris

SUBJECT: Jewish Emergency Hospital - Crater

1. During the last four months of 1948 the doctor treated 951 cases in the clinic and made 40 home visits. 46 patients were discharged from and 53 admitted to the Hospital. At the end of 1948 there were 24 patients in the hospital and 4 free beds. 17 of the 24 patients are T.B.

2. The matron-nurse, Miss Panon, in one of her home visits, found several people with open T.B. living in a house in which there were 65 people, many of them children. The T.B. cases were moved to the hospital at once. Miss Panon also reports that in the course of one of her visits to the three schools and one kindergarten she found many children weak "from undernourishment." Special milk and injections were given to them. There are also two young children who require orthopedic operation, and we are looking into the possibility of bringing them to Israel.

3. Miss Panon also started infant welfare courses for the mothers attending evening classes at one of the schools. Visits to homes and schools and the expansion of the infant welfare courses depend on being able to find a suitable assistant for Miss Panon, who during the last four months also banded 1750 eyes; 420 for eye trouble; 210 for ears; 200 for throat; 85 for wounds and gave injections to 270.

HV:PF

①  
Harry Viteles

Copy for: Mr. M. Stephany, CBF ✓



5 358

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

10th February, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

I thank you for your letter of the 2nd instant, the interesting contents of which I have noted.

In the meantime, you will have received our letter of the 4th idem, informing you of the grant voted by the Council of the Central British Fund at their meeting held on the 1st February. I very much hope that it will be possible to arrange for Mr. S. Abramowicz to go to Aden as it seems to me that the whole problem of bringing efficient relief to this Community centres on the right personality of the Administrator.

It was most satisfactory to learn from your letter that it has been possible to remove so many people from the Yemenite Camp and that the complete clearance of this Camp and also the evacuation of the Yemenite Jews from Aden, is within sight. After your report at the beginning of January that you had to stop transport by plane in view of the impossibility of obtaining motor fuel, this news came as a gratifying surprise.

I need not tell you how I look forward to a possible visit to Israel.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
Tel-Aviv,  
ISRAEL.

Secretary.



52/359

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

המשרד למזרח התיכון ובלקנים  
OFFICE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND BALKANS  
ש. פסמן, המנהל הכללי  
CHARLES PASSMAN, DIRECTOR

ADVISORY COMMITTEE :

Judah L. Magnes, Chairman  
Harry S. Davidowitz  
Harry Viteles  
Henrietta Szold  
Julius Simon  
Charles Passman  
Israel Kligler

February 10th, 1949  
Jerusalem, ירושלים  
P.O. B. 640, PHONE 3840 ת.ד. 640, טלפון 3840

הוועדה המייעצת:

י. ל. מאגנס, יושב ראש  
ש. צ. דוידוביץ  
צבי ויטלס  
גב' ה. סולד  
יוליוס סימון  
ש. פסמן  
ישראל קליגלר

Mr. Myer Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1

My dear Stephany,

Continuing my letter about Aden, I have just had the opportunity of seeing the plans for the rebuilding of the boys' school at Aden, which Mr. Schweid, the adminisitrator, has brought here. They seem to be workmanlike and the estimate of the cost which has been thoroughly worked out is about 320,000 Rupees. A set of the plans is being sent to you immediately.

It is, I think, most desirable that the C.B.F. should make available its capital grant at once, so that the contract may be placed without more delay.

I wrote to you, I think, about Landauer. I had referred the question to the new Treasurer of the Jewish Agency Dr. Goldstein, but he is at present away in America. He may be coming to England and you may see him.

Yours sincerely

*M. Tel*  
for Prof. NORMAN BENTWICH

NB/m



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

המשרד למזרח התיכון ולבלקנים  
OFFICE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND BALKANS  
ש. פסמן, המנהל הכללי  
CHARLES PASSMAN, DIRECTOR

February 11th, 49

Jerusalem, ירושלים,

P. O. B. 640 : PHONE 3840, 4304

ת.ד. 640 - טלפון 3840, 4304

No. מס.

Mr. Myer Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1

RE: Rebuilding of the boys'  
school in Aden

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Further to the letter sent to you  
on the 10th inst, by Professor Norman Bentwich,  
we are airmailing you to-day under separate  
cover five pages of plans for the rebuilding  
of the Boys' School in Aden.

Sincerely yours,

*Greener*  
AJJDC JERUSALEM

gr/m



5-1361

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

14th February, 1949.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

Re: Aden Jewish Community.

I thank you very much for your letter of the 7th instant, reference 4/3/26318, in the above matter.

In the meantime, at the meeting of the Council held on the 1st instant, an amount of £3,000 was voted for the Hospital to cover the expenditure for six months and £2,700 to cover the cost of technical training for one year. I am sure the members of the Council will be pleased to learn from your letter, contents of which will be circulated to them, that the amount voted for the Hospital will probably last for at least 10 months.

I was glad to note from your letter that you agree with the suggestion that the amount of £4,500 voted by the Central British Fund for the rebuilding of the Girls' School, should be used for the reconstruction of the Boys' School; I also feel that this is the best plan under the prevailing circumstances.

The question of a grant by the Central British Fund for secular education will come up before the Council at their next meeting. They will then have before them your opinion on the matter.

I feel that your suggestion that Mr. Abramowicz should exercise a general supervision over the educational work and should be directly responsible to the Central British Fund for the medical and educational activities in Aden, is excellent.

/over



52/362

- 2 -

I would only like to have the question of Mr. Abramoviez' going to Aden, definitely settled, as the whole continuation of the work in Aden centres on the problem of finding a suitable Administrator.

I had a talk today with Mr. Abramoviez and he showed me a cable he had just received from Palestine, from which it appears that the Youth Aliyah agree to his taking up the work in Aden. He will contact the Joint in Paris and also the Youth Aliyah Office in Paris, and it is hoped that a decision will be reached within a few days.

I informed him of your suggestion that he should supervise the educational work in Aden and he would like to have some idea of the syllabus of the Aden Jewish Schools. Could you or Mr. Viteles let me have a short note on the subject so that I may inform Mr. Abramoviez.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
P.O.B. 334,  
Jerusalem,  
PALESTINE.



21363

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

14th February, 1949.

American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Aden, Your Accounting general letter #922.

We write with reference to your letter of the 14th December 1948, in which you informed us that the total expenditure on our behalf in respect of the Aden Jewish Community amounted to:

£7,315.

On the 28th July, 1948, we remitted to you the amount of

£4,150.

and on the 16th October 1948,

£2,000

£6,150.

which latter amount was erroneously used by you for your loans scheme. The matter was discussed with Mr. Viteles who agreed that this amount be used towards the reimbursement of your expenditure on our behalf.

Balance

£1,165.

To this latter amount the following sums should be added, as per Mr. Viteles' letter of the 4th January last:-

Citrus Concentrates, oil, etc.

£940.

Medical Supplies

£780.

£1,720.

£2,885.



- 2 -

In accordance with your suggestion, we have instructed our bankers to remit this amount to your London Office.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



52/10' P242

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
המשרד למזרח התיכון  
OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

Tel-Aviv, February 15th, 1949 תל-אביב

Mr. Myer Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
LONDON W.C.1  
- - - - -

REF. 52/10' P242

Dear Stephany,

With further reference to my letter of the 13th instant, from Jerusalem, enclosing copy of a plan for rebuilding of the Boys' School, Aden.

.. We have now received an estimate from the engineer, Aden, and attach hereto a copy of same.

Sincerely yours,

*Harry Viteles*  
Harry Viteles

LIE

encl:51/5/7908



C O P Y

Dott. Ing. GINO ALMONDO  
INGEGNERE CIVILE

ADEN. 3.2.1949

5 23661

Mr. Schweid  
Aden

Dear Sir,

Referring to our conversation of last night, I am sending to you the offer for the local Government and here under all the possible reductions for the works, that on your decision, can be avoided:-

- No.1 (cc) If the walls will be painted in lime distemper instead of three coats of oil varnish the price will be reduced by approx. Rs. 3.800.-
- No.2 (cc) If the walls ~~will~~ of the sanitary services of the ground and first floor will not be lined with glazed tiles, and instead varnished with oil paint the price will be reduced of approx. Rs. 5.150.-
- No.3 (z) If the floors will be made in cement plaster instead of cement tiles the price will be reduced of approx. Rs. 6.800.-
- No.4 If the annex for the sanitary services will not be built, and instead in the place of the existing latrines will be built only a go-down (complete modification to be according to the attached sketch) the price will be reduced, from Rs. 343.369 to approx. Rs. 309.500.-

It is to be considered that in the offer of Rs. 343.369, is included a percentage varying from 5 to 6% for unforeseen expenses which could be afforded during the demolition of the first floor, during the purchase of the necessary materials which price on this market is changing daily, and all the unforeseen expenses that can derivate from a work done on an old building.

Yours faithfully,

sd.



52(367)

c o p y

ABSTRACT Sabet

Bill of quantities for the Building of the "JUDAH MENAHEM MESSA"  
Jewish School

|     |  |      |        |
|-----|--|------|--------|
| a)  | <u>WALL DEMOLITIONS</u>  |      |        |
|     | Ground and first floor   | cft. | 16.368 |
| b)  | <u>REMOVAL OF THE IRON BEAMS</u>                               |      |        |
|     | First and second floor   | n.   | 27     |
| c)  | <u>EXCAVATION IN TRENCHES</u>                                  |      |        |
|     | New and additional walls and pillars                           | cft. | 6.860  |
| d)  | <u>LIME CONCRETE IN FOUNDATION</u>                             |      |        |
|     | Wall foundations   | "    | 1.409  |
| e)  | <u>CEMENT CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS (1:3:6)</u>                     |      |        |
|     | Pillars for foundations  | "    | 300    |
| f)  | <u>STONE IN LIME MASONRY FOUNDATIONS</u>                       |      |        |
|     | Walls for foundations  | "    | 2.804  |
| g)  | <u>RUBBLE STONE IN LIME MASONRY</u>                            |      |        |
|     | Walls for superstructure                                       | "    | 4.913  |
| h)  | <u>REINFORCED CONCRETE (1:2:4) FOR FOUNDATIONS</u>             |      |        |
|     | Including all necessary shuttering (Pillars feet)              |      | 363    |
| i)  | <u>REINFORCED CONCRETE (1:2:4)</u>                             |      |        |
|     | For pillars (including all necessary shuttering)               | "    | 502    |
|     | (ground floor and first floor)                                 |      |        |
| l)  | <u>REINFORCED CEMENT CONCRETE (1:2:4)</u>                      |      |        |
|     | For beams, ground and first floor (including shuttering)"      |      | 1.906  |
| m)  | <u>REINFORCED CEMENT CONCRETE (1:2:4)</u>                      |      |        |
|     | For lintels, ground and first floor (including shuttering)"    |      | 213    |
| n)  | <u>REINFORCED CONCRETE HOLLOW TILE FLOOR</u>                   |      |        |
|     | Including shuttering and hollow pumice tiles                   | sft. | 13.935 |
| o)  | <u>ROUND IRON BARS IN PLACE, CONNECTING THE WALLS OF THE</u>   |      |        |
|     | <u>WALLS OF THE GROUND FLOOR AND PILLARS FEET ON THE WALLS</u> | Kgs. | 2.648  |
| p)  | <u>CEMENT BRICKS, WALLS, 10" x 10"</u>                         |      |        |
|     | Cement and lime mortar (1:1:12)                                | cft. | 3.591  |
| q)  | <u>CEMENT BRICKS PILLARS, 10" x 10"</u>                        |      |        |
|     | Cement mortar (1:1:6)  | cft. | 113    |
| r)  | <u>PARTITION WALLS 4" THICK</u>                                |      |        |
|     | Pumice bricks in cement and lime mortar (1:1:12)               | sft. | 5.083  |
| s)  | <u>BIG SHAPED MOULDING</u>                                     |      |        |
|     | Built on the site in cement mortar                             | Fr.  | 308    |
| t)  | <u>SMALL SHAPED MOULDING</u>                                   |      |        |
|     | Built on the site in cement mortar                             | Fr.  | 261    |
| u)  | <u>CEMENT AND LIME PLASTER 2" THICK</u>                        |      |        |
|     | All internal and external walls, ground and first floor        | sft. | 65.900 |
| v)  | <u>LIME CONCRETE FLOOR, THICKNESS 1" to 4"</u>                 |      |        |
|     | Terrace  | sft. | 7.286  |
| z)  | <u>CEMENT TILES FLOOR</u>                                      |      |        |
|     | Ground and first floor   | "    | 14.946 |
| aa) | <u>CEMENT CONCRETE (1:2:5:5)</u>                               |      |        |
|     | Underfloor levelling (Ground floor)                            | cft. | 2.250  |
| bb) | <u>STEPS IN ARTIFICIAL MARBLE</u>                              |      |        |
|     | Main and secondary staircase from ground to terrace            | n.   | 104    |
| cc) | <u>OIL VARNISH PAINTING</u>                                    |      |        |
|     | Three coats, 4 feet high on all the internal walls             | sft. | 10.150 |



52/88

|      |   |      |        |
|------|---|------|--------|
| dd)  | <u>LIME DISTEMPER TO WALLS</u><br>(colouring to be chosen) internal and external  | Sft. | 54,300 |
| ee)  | <u>LINING OF GLAZED TILES</u><br>Ground and first floor W.C.  | "    | 1,040  |
| ff)  | <u>IRON FOR DOORS AND WINDOW FRAMES</u>   | Cft. | 189    |
| gg)  | <u>GLAZED TILES</u><br>Including all fittings and painting  | Sft. | 2,644  |
| hh)  | <u>PAINTED DOORS</u><br>Including all fittings and painting   | "    | 452    |
| ii)  | <u>CHAIN LINK BALUSTRADE</u><br>Including wooden hand rail for the staircases   | Fr.  | 154    |
| ll)  | <u>IRON IN G. SILL (WETTED 5 LBS. PER SFT.)</u><br>For ground floor windows   | Sft. | 756    |
| mm)  | <u>IRON GATE OF THE GROUND FLOOR</u><br>Including all fittings and painting   | "    | 256    |
| nn)  | <u>PAINTINGS</u><br>Three coats to the iron gates (new and old)   | "    | 1,076  |
| oo)  | <u>BUILDING OF THE TERRACE OF A 1,000 GALLONS</u><br>WATER TANK   |      |        |
| pp)  | Including supplying pipes, and floating valve,<br>exit pipe with stopcock   | N.   | 1      |
| qq)  | <u>WATER CLOSURES, TURKISH TYPE</u><br>Including flashing system, and union to the<br>discharge pipe  | "    | 9      |
| rr)  | <u>WATER CLOSURES, EUROPEAN TYPE</u><br>Including flashing system and union to the<br>discharge pipe  | "    | 1      |
| ss)  | <u>WATER PIPES</u><br>Including pipe and fittings   | "    | 6      |
| tt)  | <u>LAVABOS</u><br>Including pipe and fittings   | "    | 7      |
| uu)  | <u>WATER DRINKING FOUNTAINS</u><br>Including pipes valves and fittings  | "    | 4      |
| vv)  | <u>WATER FOR THE FOUNTAINS</u><br>Including pipe  | "    | 1      |
| ww)  | <u>WATER FOR THE FOUNTAINS</u><br>6'x5'x12' internal size (Settlement type)<br>Including intercepting trap  | "    | 1      |
| xx)  | <u>CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOAKAGE PIT</u><br>Internal size, 13' diameter, 12' depth (Settlement<br>type)   | "    | 1      |
| aaa) | <u>VERTICAL DISCHARGE PIPES IN CAST IRON 4" THICK</u><br>Including special fittings, clamps, exhausts,<br>for sanitation                          | "    | 4      |
| bbb) | <u>CEMENT AND ASBESTOS DRAINAGE PIPES</u><br>4" diameter  | Ft.  | 55     |
|      | 6" "  | "    | 52     |
| ccc) | <u>INSPECTION CHAMBERS for sanitation</u>   | No.  | 6      |
| ddd) | <u>ELECTRICAL FITTINGS</u><br>1,134 electrical lighting points (fans, plugs and<br>lights) including iron pipes, switches and<br>main switchboard | "    | 134    |
| eee) | <u>SUPPLY OF LAMP SHADES</u><br>In enamelled iron or porcelain  | "    | 64     |
| fff) | <u>SUPPLY OF FANS</u><br>Including switches   | "    | 34     |
| ggg) | <u>SUPPLY OF FURNITURE</u>  |      | ??     |



52/368

15th February, 1949

MS/AC

Sir Reginald S. Champion, K.C.M.G., O.B.E.,  
Governor of Aden,  
c/o The Colonial Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

As you are no doubt aware the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation have been very concerned with regard to the condition of the Jews of Aden and have voted a considerable sum of money for the relief and rehabilitation of these people.

As I understand that you are in London for a little while, I should esteem it a very great favour if you could afford me a few minutes of your valuable time to discuss one or two points in connection with this matter.

Perhaps you could arrange for a telephone message to be sent to my Office as above advising when and where it would be convenient for you to see me.

With best thanks in anticipation of your kind help,

Yours truly,

Secretary,



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

16 February 1949

5 213/0  
TELEPHONE

INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

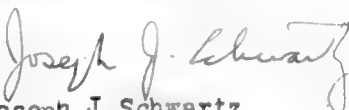
Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I enclose for your information copy of a communication which came from Dr. Cochrane of Aden addressed to Harry Viteles. In view of your general interest in the Aden program and in view of your important financial participation, I thought you would be interested in the enclosed.

Mr. Viteles advises me that even with the movements that have been taking place from Aden, it would still be necessary to maintain the medical program and to develop the program for secular education concerning which we spoke recently.

Sincerely yours,

  
Joseph J. Schwartz  
Chairman

jjs:nc  
encl. - 1.



52/371

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3.1.1949

My dear Viteles,

If you are pulling out of Aden what about the hospital? It looks as if we will have to close down at the end of March for lack of funds. Theoretically there is no reason why out-patients and in-patient treatment should not be given at the Government Hospital, as it was before, but you know that such a step would be a setback to the social welfare of the Jewish community.

The Government Hospital could cope with the in-patients, apart from TB cases, but I am far from happy about the outpatients facilities. The emergency Hospital has proved a great boon to the poor and the old, two classes of persons who are unlikely to receive much attention from the local inhabitants. In an overcrowded hospital or dispensary out-patient department they would be pushed well back of the mob.

My main difficulty would be in finding accommodation for the TB cases of whom we have 17. There simply is no room for them in the Government Hospital and they would have to be returned to their homes while the homeless would be left in the streets. Apart from the public health and humanitarian aspect of the problem, it would be a grievous thing to interrupt their treatment. We are getting excellent results, and given time, most of the 17 will recover.

I understand the Central British Fund has been supplying money for this hospital and I would like to know if there is any possibility of this assistance being continued.

You know how much it costs so I do not need to give any detailed account but I think we could very well cut it from the present £.425 to about £.300 p.m. If it was kept for TB cases only the monthly cost could be brought down to £.200.

..

E. Cochrane



5 21378

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, February 16, 1949 תל-אביב.

58/10/P250

REF.

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1, ENGLAND

Dear Stephany:

Very many thanks for your letter of the 4th instant which arrived on the 13th, together with copy of your letter to the AJDC Paris of same date. As I understand it, the grant of £3,000 for medical expenses is for a period of six months, and that of £2,700 for trade education is for a period of one year, in both instances as from the 1st of January, 1949. Is there any special reason why the Central British Fund did not make any allocation for secular education, in particular for a head master and head mistress for the boys' and for the girls' school, respectively? Mr. Abramowitz has agreed to accept the appointment in Aden and the youth Aliyah has agreed to release him. I am now waiting for a reply to my cable to Headquarters Paris about Mr. Abramowitz's appointment.

Mr. Schweid, of our Jerusalem office, whom we sent to Aden for several weeks, spent a few days in Israel. Professor Bentwich participated in one of the conversations with Schweid, whom I have authorized to spend up to £300 for essential repairs of the sanitary facilities in the hospital. We also decided that instead of engaging an assistant to Miss Danon, the matron of the Jewish Emergency Hospital, we would try to get a medical social service worker who is also a registered nurse. She would work under the direct supervision of the administrator for Aden and would devote her entire time to home visiting, infant welfare work, examining of school children, etc. Miss Danon, who has started welfare courses with mothers and has done some home and school visiting, then would be released from these duties and could devote all of her time to the hospital. Mr. Schweid agrees with Dr. Cochran's suggestions that the Emergency Hospital should be mainly used for TB patients, including convalescents, except for a few beds which would be kept for emergency cases of other kinds. Mr. Schweid also agrees that the dispensary and out-patient department should be continued,



CONTINUATION SHEET

- 2 -

5 2/3/3

particularly since the Jews are still reluctant about going to the Government Hospital where they would have to mingle with the Arabs. In this connection I enclose a copy of a report which summarizes the activities of the Emergency Hospital during the last four months of 1948.

You probably have heard that the AJDC is furnishing the emigration of practically all of the Yemenites, not only from the camp but also those living in the Crater. There is as yet no decision about the release of the men of military age. In this connection, I quote for your information an extract from a letter from our representative in Aden:

"Upon my repeated mentioning of the time factor if we want to secure the speedy evacuation of the camp, Mr. Newland told me confidentially that the Government wishes to see the camp cleared as quickly as possible, but it doesn't want to make it appear as if the green light was given by the Governor. They have given a very definite promise to the local Arab leaders that no man of military age would go and the Governor doesn't want to face an accusation of breach of promise. If, on the other hand, London would instruct him to let those of military age go, he could claim that it was a decision of the British Government, ergo a matter on international political level.

"Mr. Newland, furthermore, gave me to understand that under no circumstances could we expect the Governor to agree on his own. It appears, therefore, that it will be necessary to put pressure on London if we want the camp to be liquidated."

I have advised Headquarters Paris that you are interested in seeing copies of my reports on Iran and Iraq. I do hope that if the AJDC will decide to begin a program of work in Iran, and perhaps also in Iraq, as and when this is possible, that the CBF and AJDC will work together in these countries.

I have spoken at some length with Bentwich about the programs in Aden, Iran and Iraq.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Harry Viteles*

Harry Viteles

HV:PF

Encl.



521374  
17th February, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Norman,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, reference 4/8/27078, which crossed mine of the same date, dealing both with the situation in Aden and also the matter of the grant for the Hebrew University.

Dr. Israel Goldstein struck me as being quite a reasonable sort of person and I hope that with his help you will be able to get the grant through.

As regards Aden, I think that Mr. Abramovitch will be going out and if he does, then I think matters will be dealt with in a proper way. The Council might make further grants and I am hoping that the I.C.A. will also do something more. It will be useful if you could keep me posted with the information which you have which will be much more up-to-date than anything we can get.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor Norman Bentwich.  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,  
P.O.B. 640,  
Jerusalem,  
Palestine.



L.S/AG.

17th February, 1949.

A D E N.

Since the end of 1947, the Central British Fund has been considering how it can help the situation of the Jews in Aden and at a meeting on the 31st December in that year it voted a sum of £3,000 for relief, £1,000 of which was provided by the I.C.A. Since that time the Council has made further grants for relief and rehabilitation and in all, a sum of approximately £10,000 has been provided for this purpose as well as £4,500 for the rebuilding of the Girls' School. The monies are administered by the American Joint Distribution Committee, which body has now submitted a budget for the year 1949. This budget includes the following:-

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| (A) Medical Expenditure:   | £6,000. 0. 0.         |
| to cover the cost of two nurses to be sent to Aden, the salary of a visiting doctor and the distribution of medicaments and preventive foods.  |                       |
| (B) Secular Education:   | 3,600. 0. 0.          |
| To cover the salary of the Headmaster and Headmistress, the salaries of the local teachers to be paid by the Community.  |                       |
| (C) Technical Training:  | 5,400. 0. 0.          |
| This sum would cover the salaries of trade teachers for two years. The A.J.D.C. consider it particularly important to cover the budget for technical Training for a period of two years. |                       |
| (D) Reconstruction, Loans and Grants:  | 12,000. 0. 0.         |
|  | <u>£27,000. 0. 0.</u> |



52/3/10

The American Joint Distribution Committee suggested that the Central British Fund should provide items (A), (B) and (C), whilst the American Joint Distribution Committee would provide the £12,000 required for reconstruction, loans and grants and also the cost of administration, which is estimated at £3,000 a year.

At its last meeting, the Council of the Central British Fund voted a sum of £5,000 to cover the medical expenditure for half a year and £2,700 to cover the technical training for one year. At the end of these two periods, the Council would review the situation in the light of reports to be received, of the work actually carried out and of its then financial position.

The Council also agreed that the sum of £4,500 voted towards the rebuilding of the Girls' School, £2,000 of which money was provided by the I.C.A., should now be used for the rebuilding of the Boys' School which would cost about £24,000, towards which the Government would be prepared to contribute £8,000, local families would provide about £7,000 and the American Joint Distribution Committee would put up the remaining £4,500.

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MS/AC

17th February, 1949

Dear Lord Reading,

Re: Aden

With reference to our conversation on the telephone this morning I enclose herewith a short note which I have prepared. If this does not give you all the information you require, will you kindly let me know and I will endeavour to amplify it.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

The Most Hon. the Marquis of Reading,  
C.B.E., M.C., T.D., K.C.,  
Flat 1/3, Belgrave Place,  
London, S.W.1.



521378

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE FOR MIDDLE EAST.

Tel Aviv.

February 17th, 1949.

Dr. H.O. Joseph,  
7 & 8, Princes Street,  
LONDON, E. C. 2.

Ref:52/13/8234.

Dear Dr. Joseph,

I acknowledge, with thanks, your letter of the 4th instant enclosing Dr. Segal's report on the Jewish Community of Tripolitania which arrived on the 16th instant. I also had a letter from Mr. Stepany about the allocation which the CBF have voted for work in Aden.

I do hope that the CBF, after they have read the reports on Iraq and Iran, will be able to spare some funds for work in these countries.

Unfortunately my prognosis about Iraq namely, that the situation would become worse before it gets better, seems to be confirmed by the recent events reported in the press.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Harry Viteles.

6



5213/9

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE FOR MIDDLE EAST.

Tel Aviv.  
February 18th, 1949.

Ref: 52/10/8387.

H.C. Joseph, Esq.,  
7 & 8, Princes Street,  
LONDON, E. C. 2.

Dear Mr. Joseph,

ADEN.

With further reference to yours of the 9th instant which reached me on the 16th instant.

2. The budget includes the amount required for the maintenance of the I.B. patients. Dr. Cochrane arrived at the amount of £300 per month instead of £420, by deducting expenditures for medicaments, medical supplies, for milk, and by reducing the salary of the matron by half. It is impossible to get a good nurse to go from Israel to Aden at less than what we pay Mrs. Danon, namely £70 per month.

3. I plan to leave for Aden on the 22nd instant, and remain there one week, with Mr. Abramowicz, who has been appointed AJDC Administrator, Aden. At this time I shall do my best to change the Governor's negative attitude to release the nearly 900 Yemenites of military age. The Foreign Office agrees to the release of these men but the Governor refuses to let them go because he fears riots. In this connection I quote from a letter from our Mr. Simon of the 10th instant. I have been advised that the Chief of Police does not share the Governor's apprehension:

"Upon my repeated mentioning of the time factor if we want to secure the speedy evacuation of the camp, Mr. Newland told me confidentially that the Government wishes to see the camp cleared as quickly as possible, but it doesn't want to make it appear as if the green light was given by the Governor. They have given a very definite promise to the local Arab leaders that no man of military age would go and the Governor doesn't want to face an accusation of breach of promise. If, on the other hand, London would instruct



52/380

him to let those of military age go, he could claim that it was a decision of the British Government, ergo a matter on international political level.

Mr. Newland, furthermore, gave me to understand that under no circumstances could we expect the Governor to agree on his own. It appears, therefore, that it will be necessary to put pressure on London if we want the camp to be liquidated.

Respectfully,  
Yours,

Sincerely Yours,

(Sgd, Harry Viteles.



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

52/10/8388  
52/381

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, ... February 18th, 1949 תל-אביב.

REF

Dear Stephany,

With further reference to your letter of the 10th instant which arrived on the 17th.

2. By this time you know that Mr. Abramowicz has accepted the appointment as JDC Administrator for Aden.

3. The Governor of Aden is still adamant in his decision not to release the men of military age.

I am planning to fly to Aden on the 22nd instant to introduce Mr. Abramowicz and will use the opportunity to raise the question again with the Governor.

*Regard*

Sincerely yours,

*Harry Viteles*

Harry Viteles

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
LONDON, W.C.1  
-----

HV:LIF



3 BELGRAVE PLACE

S.W.1

SLOANE 7755

52/282  
22nd February, 1949.

Dear Stephany,

Many thanks for the memorandum about Aden. I think that it gives me all the information that I require, but if I find that I need anything further, I will certainly apply to you again.

Yrs sincerely  
P. Reading

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House, W.C.1.



51383

WILLIAM H. HARRIS, Jr.

1. (G)

Lawrence A. Hirschman

Mr. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund for Jewish Relief & Rehabilitation,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W.C.1.



# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

521384

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

TELEPHONE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

INVALIDES } 87-83  
87-55  
79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

NO. 1000 - General Account - 1949

February 14, 1949.

Mr. J. Viteles,  
Central British Fund,  
London, W.C.,  
England.  
Dear Sir:

Dear Sir,

Enclosed with this is the receipt of your letter dated February 14, 1949 concerning the reimbursement of our expenditures on our behalf for the 1948 Jewish Appeal.

We would like to call your attention to the fact that our Accounting letter 1922 of December 14, 1948, as you have no doubt noticed, did not list expenditures for the months of August, September and October, 1948 since we did not have any information on hand concerning these months.

According to Mr. Viteles's letter addressed to you on January 4, 1949 the expenses incurred by us on behalf of the C.B.F. up to November 3, 1948 amounted to..... \$ 4,120:-

Against this amount we received from you..... \$ 4,120:-

Plus the credit for the 1948 transmission..... 2,104:-

This will leave a balance in our favour of..... \$ 2,104:-

Sincerely yours,

*[Signature]*  
ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ



21285  
23rd February, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Viteles,

Your letter of the 15th instant.

I thank you for your above letter enclosing copy of an estimate from Ing. Gino Almondo regarding the rebuilding of the Boys' School. We have not yet received your letter of the 13th instant enclosing a plan, but we are quite prepared to rely on the Joint's decision in the matter.

With regard to the suggested reductions mentioned in Mr. Almondo's letter of the 3rd instant, I rather feel that in the interests of efficiency and health, we should put up the best building which we can afford and I wonder whether it would not be false economy to accept the alternatives mentioned in 1, 2 and 3 at a saving of approximately £1,000. I certainly feel that on no account should the sanitary block be replaced by a go-down even if this might save a few thousand rupees. I shall be glad to hear at your early convenience that you agree with this point of view.

Your letter of the 16th instant.

I also thank you for this letter and have noted with great interest what you write. The Council felt that until definite arrangements had been made to provide the personnel which was required to carry out the secular education, there was no point in their making a grant. As soon as the quest of personnel is satisfactorily settled then the Council of the Central British Fund will consider this matter again in the light of their financial position as it exists then. I shall be glad to have your further views in this matter as soon as possible.



13/24/50

I have spoken to the official Representative of the State of Israel about the question of the complete evacuation of the Hashid Camp and the matter will be taken up with the Foreign Office.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
P.O. Box 640,  
Jerusalem,  
Palestine.



21337  
23rd February, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

I thank you for your letter of the 16th instant enclosing copy of a communication from Dr. Cochrane of Adon which, by the way, we also received a few days ago from Palestine.

We, too, feel that the maintenance of medical services in Aden is still essential and you have, no doubt, seen our letter of the 4th instant, addressed to your Office, in which we informed the American Joint Distribution Committee that the Central British Fund, at their meeting held on the 1st idem, voted an amount of £3,000 to cover the cost of the hospital for six months. It now appears from Dr. Cochrane's letter that this amount will cover the expenditure for a period of approximately ten months. It all, therefore, centres on the Joint being able to find the necessary personnel. I shall be glad to have your further comments in this connection as soon as possible.

We received to-day an estimate of the cost of rebuilding the Boys' School in Aden and I have written to Viteles and advised him of our view that proper sanitary services should not be discarded to economise on building costs. I am enclosing copy of our letter of even date to Viteles, for your information.

I had a long conversation to-day with Mr. Abramovitch, who is preparing for his departure to Aden. He is a little worried about going over before he knows exactly the work which he will have to supervise as he seemed to have gathered the opinion that you had not yet finalised your plans in regard to Aden. I believe that he will be ready to leave in about a fortnight and I have no doubt that by then you will be able to give him detailed instructions as to what you require. I shall be glad if you will kindly keep us posted as to what you want him to do.

P.T.O.



521388

As to Mr. Abramovitch's work in Aden; as I mentioned to you on the telephone the other day, it is suggested that it would be advisable for Mr. Abramovitch to exercise a general supervision over the educational work and to report regarding the medical and educational activities in Aden, both to you and to us direct here. It is desirable that the Anglo-Jewish Community should know of the work which is being done on behalf of the Jews in Aden so that, if necessary, further recommendations regarding the rehabilitation of the Aden Community can be considered. I understood you to say that you had no objection whatever to Mr. Abramovitch reporting also to us direct and I have no doubt that you will advise him accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Dr. Joseph Schwartz.  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris, 7.



52/389

BY AIR MAIL

MS/AC

24th February, 1949

Dear Mr. Viteles,

I have just heard from the I.C.A. that they would like to send one of their Representatives to Aden to report as to the possibility of the I.C.A. being able to interest itself in the rehabilitation of the Jewish Community in Aden.

They would like to consider this matter at their April Meeting and they are, therefore, anxious that their Representative, Mr. V. Girmounsky should visit Aden in the course of the next two or three weeks. In order to get the necessary visa, I understand that his entry must be recommended by the Governor of the Protectorate and I shall be glad if you could arrange for Mr. Schweid, or whoever is at the moment acting as your Representative in Aden, to make the necessary representations to the Authorities.

I understand that the I.C.A. is mainly interested in loans to be used for the rehabilitation of the Jewish Community and they would like to work in close co-operation with the J.D.C.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Bentwich in case he may have any other suggestion to make and I shall be glad if you will kindly take an early opportunity of communicating with him on this subject as it is rather urgent.

We are hoping that Mr. Abramovitch will be leaving in about a fortnight's time and Mr. Girmounsky very soon after.

If necessary you could cable me as soon as you or Mr. Schweid have any information to pass on.

P.T.O.



52/290

With kind regards and best thanks for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
P.O. Box 640,  
Jerusalem,  
Palestine.



5-1391  
MS/AC

24th February, 1949

Dear Norman,

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter which I have to-day sent to Harry Viteles which is self-explanatory.

Would you be good enough to get into touch with him at once and do what you can to facilitate the granting of the visa.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor Norman Bentwich.  
The Hebrew University,  
Jerusalem,  
Palestine.



52492

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

28th February, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

I enclose herewith, for your information, copy of our letter of even date to the American Joint Distribution Committee, Paris.

This opportunity also serves to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th instant.

I wonder whether you were planning to fly to Aden on the 22nd of this month as you wrote in your letter, or whether you meant the 22nd March.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
P.O. Box 221,  
Tel-Aviv,  
ISRAEL.



524393

AIR MAIL

CK/IF

28th February, 1949.

American Joint Distribution Committee,  
199, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.

Dear Sirs,

Your reference Accounting General letter # 1230.

We thank you for your letter of the 23rd instant,  
and note what you write.

We acted on the assumption that the figures in your  
Accounting general letter #922 were the official ones and we  
thought we should be able to defray fully the cost of all  
supplies from Palestine to Aden. We now note from your above  
letter that the figures contained in Mr. Viteles' letter are  
to be considered as correct.

There is still an unexpended balance of grants voted  
by the Council of the Central British Fund for Aden, amounting  
to £365 and we are instructing our bankers to remit this sum  
to your London Office. This remittance exhausts the amount  
budgeted by us for Aden, for 1948.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



52/394

GOVERNMENT OF ADEN

---

In reply please quote:

No.            S.386

and date.

THE SECRETARIAT,  
ADEN

1st March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Yehooda,

His Excellency has asked me to write to you in regard to the evacuation of Yemeni Jews from the Hashed Camp and Crater and to inform you of the most recent developments in this situation.

As you are probably aware, Government has consistently refused to help the Jewish organisers of this evacuation scheme in any way. On the other hand Government has recognized that so long as warlike stores and persons of military age are not allowed to leave, no obstacle should be put in the way of a general evacuation scheme. The airlift has now been completed but there remain in the Camp some 700 Jews of military age. In regard to these latter Jews, the Secretary of State for the Colonies has now informed His Excellency that the embargo on the movement of persons of military age has now been raised, although the embargo on warlike stores remains in force. The Jewish organisers have in consequence asked for authority to make new arrangements for the evacuation of the remaining Jews.

In view of the news of the signing of the armistice in Palestine, and the desirability from the humanitarian angle of not preventing these Jews from joining their families in Palestine, His Excellency feels unable to refuse this request. It is proposed therefore, to inform the organisers that no objection will be raised if a further contract with an Airline Company is negotiated for the evacuation of the remaining inhabitants of the Hashed Camp in the near future. I will however, keep you informed of the position.

Your sincerely

The Honourable Judah Menahem Yahooda,  
Universal Bazaar,  
Steamer Point.



52/395  
1st March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

I am in receipt of your two letters of the 17th and 18th February. As I think I mentioned to you previously, I am afraid that the Council of the C.B.F. has not the funds available to enable them to make grants to Iran and Iraq. As you know, we depend for <sup>our</sup> means on monies collected in this country, as the Dominion participate more or less directly in the A.J.D.C. programme. In view of our heavy direct commitments we do not feel that there is much purpose in making a number of small token contributions and some of us prefer, when we can afford to give at all, to do so for specific projects.

As regards your second letter, I am much obliged to you for the information you have given us regarding the budget for the medical programme in Aden. I have also read Mr. Simon's comments with great interest and, in connection with his statement that it will be necessary to put pressure on London if we want the Camp to be liquidated, I am wondering whether you want me to take any action here. I should certainly be very pleased to submit the matter to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Anglo-Jewish Association in London, of which I am a member, if you will give me permission to do so. The Committee has taken a great interest in conditions at Aden and would, I think, be prepared to make further approaches. However, I have not felt entitled to pass on the information to another body without your prior consent.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

H.O. Joseph.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
TEL AVIV.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

22396

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

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CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

March 1, 1949

Mr. L. Stepany  
The Central British Fund  
McBurn House  
Upper McBurn Street  
London, E.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stepany:

In the name of Dr. Schwartz we wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 25, 1949, regarding Aden.

We have been in close touch with Mr. Viteles in Israel regarding the Aden situation, and wish to advise you that he is flying to Aden this week to look into the situation once again. We now understand that the British will permit the ineligibles to leave Aden for Israel and we hope, therefore, that we will be able to move the balance of the Yemenite refugees still in the colony. Up to now we have moved approximately 4,500 people, and there are still approx. 900 Yemenite refugees left who, we hope, can be transported soon.

There is also some possibility that a number of Adenite Jews might be permitted to leave Aden for Israel. Of course, we are not certain at this writing of the number of Adenites who may emigrate and we are awaiting definite information on this point from Mr. Viteles. In the meantime, however, we have asked Mr. Abramovitch to postpone his trip to Aden until these latest developments are clarified. We will, of course, keep you advised.

Yours sincerely,

*Helvin Goldstein*

Helvin L. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG/hf



COPY

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, Rue Saint-Dominique  
PARIS

March 4, 1949

52/397

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Noturn House,  
Upper Noturn Place,  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany:

In reference to our telephone conversation today we wish to give you the following information regarding Aden.

On March 2, 1949 the authorities in Aden officially announced that the so-called ineligible would be released and permitted to proceed to Israel. According to our figures, there are a total of approximately 980 so-called ineligible refugees, some 860 in the Rashid Camp and about 120 in Crater, who will now be able to proceed to Israel. We have cabled instructions to our office in Tel Aviv to continue the airlift so that these people may be flown to Israel.

In addition, however, several days ago we learned from our Mr. Vitelen that some poor Adenites had registered for emigration to Israel. If this number a very few, probably no more than about 150, can pay for their own transportation and we were requested to pay for the transportation of the balance. The authorities in Aden, we understand, will permit these Adenite Jews to leave but we are not altogether certain at this writing whether the Government will also permit the military-age men among them to accompany their families to Israel. In any event, the movement of this entire group by air from Aden to Israel would entail an expenditure of over \$200,000. Our financial situation at the present time, as you probably know, is so stringent that we do not know whether we can possibly spend that amount to move these Adenites and we are now considering this matter.

In the event, however, that these 2041 Adenites should be moved, there would remain in Aden a total Jewish population of some people, being 1150 Adenites and about 300 Yemenites. We assume that these Yemenites have been living in Aden for quite some time. Such a reduction of the population in Aden would call for a revision of the program we envisaged for 1949. Mr. Vitelen has, therefore, flown to Aden today in order to determine the present status; that is, will Adenite Jews between 21 and 45 be permitted to accompany their families to Israel should it become possible for us to move them, and how would such movement affect the 1949 program. We wish to point out that we are, of course, definitely opposed to breaking up family groups since this makes it very difficult for the people in Israel. You will also wish to know that any decision on the movement of these Adenites depends on the extent to which the program in Aden could be reduced should they move.

In view of the above, we have asked Mr. Abramovitch to postpone his trip to Aden until Mr. Vitelen can clarify these questions for us and we can see the 1949 program a bit more clearly. We are sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Abramovitch, to whom we spoke today, so that he will be an courier.

As soon as further information is received from Aden we will, of course, get in touch with you.

MSD:ab  
cc: Mr. Abramovitch

Sincerely yours,  
(Sgd) Melvin S. Gelstein  
Assistant Secretary



52198

4th March, 1949

MS/AC

The American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris (7E),

For the attention of M. Goldstein, Esq.

Dear Sirs,

Re: A D E N

I duly received your letter of the 1st instant,  
contents of which I note.

This opportunity merely serves to confirm our conversation on the telephone and I look forward to hearing further from you with regard to the situation as soon as you have heard from Mr. Viteles.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



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EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
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JOINTFUND-PARIS

March 4, 1949

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

In reference to our telephone conversation today we wish to give you the following information regarding Aden.

On March 2, 1949 the authorities in Aden officially announced that the so-called ineligibles would be released and permitted to proceed to Israel. According to our figures, there are a total of approximately 980 so-called ineligibles refugees, some 860 in the Hashid Camp and about 120 in Crater, who will now be able to proceed to ~~Israel~~<sup>Israel</sup>. We have cabled instructions to our office in Tel Aviv to continue the airlift so that these people may be flown to Israel.

In addition, however, several days ago we learned from our Mr. Viteles that 2041 poor Adenites had registered for emigration to Israel. Of this number a very few, probably no more than about 150, can pay for their own transportation and we were requested to pay for the transportation of the balance. The authorities in Aden, we understand, will permit these Adenite Jews to leave but we are not altogether certain at this writing whether the Government will also permit the military-age men among them to accompany their families to Israel. In any event, the movement of this entire group by air from Aden to Israel would entail an expenditure of over \$200,000. Our financial situation at the present time, as you probably know, is so stringent that we do not know whether we can possibly spend that amount to move these Adenites and we are now considering this matter.

In the event, however, that these 2041 Adenites should be moved, there would remain in Aden a total Jewish population of 1400 people, being 1100 Adenites and about 300 Yemenites. We assume that these Yemenites have been living in Aden for quite some time. Such a reduction of the population in Aden would call for a revision of the program we envisaged for 1949. Mr. Viteles has, therefore, flown to Aden today in order to determine the present status; that is, will Adenite Jews between 21 and 45 be permitted to accompany their families to Israel should it become possible for us to move them, and how would such movement affect the 1949 program. We wish to point out that we are, of course, definitely opposed to breaking up family groups since this makes it very difficult for the people in Israel. You will also wish to know that any decision on the movement of these Adenites depends on the extent to which the program in Aden could be reduced should they move.



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Mr. M. Stephany

- 2 -

March 4, 1949

In view of the above, we have asked Mr. Abramovitch to postpone his trip to Aden until Mr. Viteles can clarify these questions for us and we can see the 1949 program a bit more clearly. We are sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Abramovitch, to whom we spoke today, so that he will be au courant.

As soon as further information is received from Aden we will, of course, get in touch with you.

Sincerely yours,

*Melvin S. Goldstein*

Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG:mb

cc: Mr. Abramovitch



(COPY)

521 401

Manchester Guardian

7th March, 1949

# JEWS STILL ARRIVING IN ADEN

FROM YEMEN TO PALESTINE  
ADEN, MARCH 6.

The first of 860 military-aged Yemenite Jews, granted permission to leave for Israel, flew from here to-day soon after the Aden Government had asked the Yemen to stop the trek of Jews into the Protectorate. Yemenite Jews are said to be arriving in Aden at the rate of one hundred a month in an attempt to reach Israel, and the British authorities fear that if more come in there will be a repetition of the 1947 programs.

Jewish sources said that emaciated Jews arriving here all tell the same story of a ninety-mile trek to avoid capture and imprisonment in the Yemen. They say that rabbis and prominent members of the Jewish community in the Yemen are imprisoned in chains.

Over four thousand Jews have been flown out of Aden since the December programs here, and it is understood that the remaining 3,124 have asked the American Joint Distribution Committee to continue the "airlift" until they have all reached Israel. -- Reuter.



CK/LP

7th March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Temkin,

I am enclosing herewith, for your information,  
copy of a letter from the A.J.D.C. Paris, dated the 4th  
instant, from which it appears that the whole position  
in Aden may undergo a complete change in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

S.D. Temkin, Esq.,  
Anglo-Jewish Association,  
Woburn House.

Secretary.



5714  
CK/LP

7th March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Brotman,

I am enclosing herewith, for your information, copy of a letter from the A.J.D.C., Paris, dated the 4th instant, from which it appears that the whole position in Aden may undergo a complete change in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

A. Brotman, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
Weburn House.

Secretary.



32/404

CK/LP

11th March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I have just contacted Mr. Bentwich on the telephone. He told me that he had a telephone conversation with Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid, but could not prevail upon him to postpone sending the ICA delegate to Aden until Mr. Abramovitch arrives there.

It appears that ICA intends to send the delegate quite independently of Mr. Abramovitch's movements.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

C. Kapralik.

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Medmenham,  
106, The Avenue,  
Brondesbury Park,  
N.W.6.

---



52/405

14th March, 1949.

NB/LG

Dear Sir Bernard,

Jewish Community in Aden.

Confirming my talk with you on the telephone to-day, I am writing to say that the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA) are anxious to help the Jewish Community in Aden with loan funds to supplement the compensation of the Government, and they wish to send out, as soon as possible, one of their experienced officers, Mr. Victor Girmounsky, who will make a study of the needs.

The Jewish Colonization Association is a British Company formed for the assistance of Jewish colonization and similar purposes in many countries. It has purely philanthropic purposes and no political aims whatsoever. Its Directors, of whom the Marquess of Reading is Chairman, are of British, French, and Belgian nationality.

Mr. Girmounsky was originally of Russian nationality but has been a French citizen for many years.

You said that you would communicate at once with the Governor of Aden about granting a visa and it would be appreciated if a cabled reply could be given so that there may be the least delay.

Yours sincerely,

NORMAN BENTLEY.

Sir Bernard Reilly,  
Colonial Office,  
Whitehall, S. W. 1.



# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

52/4 do

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JOINTFUND-PARIS

March 14, 1949

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

Mr. Viteles returned to Israel from Aden a few days ago and he has cabled us a brief report on the situation there. We would like to pass on this information to you which is based on Mr. Viteles' investigations on the spot and is the last word. We note that there is some difference between this information and that which we sent you a week or so ago but we are certain you will understand that our last letter to you on this subject was based on rough estimates we had received from Tel Aviv.

By this time we have moved from Aden to Israel approximately 4,600 Yemenite refugees. There are still approximately 800 Yemenites in Aden, almost all ineligible, who are still to be moved and we have two planes moving them to Israel.

After these people are moved there will remain in Aden a total of 2,600 Adenites, 250 Yemenites who have been there for quite a long time and 225 Yemenite infiltrees who arrived in Aden since February 1st, making a total of 3,075 Jews. Of the 2,600 Adenite Jews in Aden, 2,200 have registered for emigration to Israel, of whom 1,400 are unable to cover any part of the costs of passage. Of the balance of 600 Adenites, 200 can pay full costs, 200 half costs and 200 one-quarter of the cost of transportation. Practically all the old-time Yemenites and the new infiltrees want to go to Israel and are unable to pay for their transportation.

We have already spent approximately \$450,000 to move the people already in Israel. In order to move the balance in the Hashid camp and the few eligibles in Crater we will spend an additional \$80,000 or so. In order to move the 1,900 people mentioned above (1,400 Adenites, 250 Yemenites and 225 Yemenite infiltrees) we figure that the cost will come to approximately \$175,000, taking into consideration a reduction in the rate which we would hope we could work out by that time. And to move the balance of 600 who can partially participate in the transportation costs, we would have to spend another \$25,000 or so.

Dr. Schwartz is now in Budapest but we expect him back here shortly and we wish to discuss this entire matter with him. However, should Mr. Viteles'



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52/407

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JOINTFUND-PARIS

Mr. N. Stephany

- 2 -

March 14, 1949

recommendations be approved there would be left in Aden a total Jewish population of about 400 people. Of course, it would take some little while to move the prospective emigrants to Israel and meanwhile Mr. Viteles has recommended that we continue to make available through July £50 monthly for the school and some £400 monthly through September for the hospital. Mr. Viteles reports that the hospital is required for tubercular patients who are recovering as well as for new infiltrates. Also, should all the people mentioned above emigrate to Israel, it would be possible to cancel all other budgets for Aden. Of course, one of the important factors to be considered here is the high cost of moving these people to Israel and, as we mentioned to you also, it is doubtful whether we will have the funds to pay for this mass movement out of the colony. We have looked into the possibility of moving these people by ship through the Suez Canal but we understand that the Egyptians will not permit Jews to pass through the Canal to Israel for at least another ten weeks or so.

The above, of course, is just an interim report. We are awaiting Dr. Schwartz' return to Paris so that we might discuss it with him.

Sincerely yours,

*Melvin S. Goldstein*

Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG:mb



52/408

NB/LS

14th March, 1949.

Dear Sir Bernard,

Jewish Community in Aden.

Confirming my talk with you on the telephone to-day, I am writing to say that the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA) are anxious to help the Jewish Community in Aden with loan funds to supplement the compensation of the Government, and they wish to send out, as soon as possible, one of their experienced officers, Mr. Victor Girmounsky, who will make a study of the needs.

The Jewish Colonization Association is a British Company formed for the assistance of Jewish colonization and similar purposes in many countries. It has purely philanthropic purposes and no political aims whatsoever. Its Directors, of whom the Marquess of Reading is Chairman, are of British, French, and Belgian nationality.

Mr. Girmounsky was originally of Russian nationality but has been a French citizen for many years.

You said that you would communicate at once with the Governor of Aden about granting a visa and it would be appreciated if a cabled reply could be given so that there may be the least delay.

Yours sincerely,

NORMAN BENTWICH.

Sir Bernard Reilly, K.C.M.G., C.I.E., O.B.E.,  
Colonial Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.



HARRY VITELES

~~XXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXX~~

צב"י ויטלס

XX.X.X  
X

XXXXXX

March 14th, 1949

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund for Jewish Relief &  
Rehabilitation

Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

With further reference to yours of the 28th ultimo received on the 13th instant (ref. CK/LP).

2. You probably know that the Government finally decided to release the men of military age. A copy of the Governor's letter to the members of the Legislative Council on this question is attached. We hope to complete the transportation of the 860 men of military age within a week.

3. I have just returned from a five days stay in Aden. There were two surprises :-

- a. A house-to-house census made in February 1949 by the Jewish Agency representative showed that there were only 2640 Adenite Jews. When in Aden in January 1948 the Jewish Emergency Committee also made a census and they submitted data to me showing that there were 4000 Adenite Jews. Nobody was able to explain the decrease of 1400 within one year;
- b. Over 2200 have registered with the Jewish Agency for emigration to Israel. According to the committee which examined all applications there are 1527 who are unable to contribute towards the cost of transportation. I am waiting for the AJDC's decision on this question. In the meantime I advised the Jewish Emergency Committee to continue with the health, education and other services.

I was unsuccessful in convincing the committee to postpone a large emigration for a year and to use the interval to prepare the people for life in Israel.

4. I shall keep you advised on further developments.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

*Harry Viteles*  
Harry Viteles

HV:LLF

encl: as above: from The Secretariat Aden 1.3.1949



C O P Y

HARRY VITELES

P.O.B. 221,  
TEL AVIV.

March 14th 1949.

H.O. Joseph Esq.,  
7 & 8 Princes Street,  
LONDON, E.C.2.

Dear Mr. Joseph,

A D E N

1. I am sorry to note from your letter of the 1st instant received on the 16th inst. that the C.B.F. will be unable to "make grants to Iran and Iraq".
  2. You probably know that the Government finally decided to release the men of military age. A copy of the Governor's letter to the members of the Legislative Council on this question is attached. We hope to complete the transportation of the 860 men of military age within a week.
  3. I have just returned from a five days stay in Aden. There were two surprises : -
    - a. A house-to-house census made in February 1949 by the Jewish Agency representative showed that there were only 2640 Adenite Jews. When in Aden in January 1948 the Jewish Emergency Committee also made a census and they submitted data to me showing that there were 4000 Adenite Jews. Nobody was able to explain the decrease of 1400 within one year;
    - b. Over 2800 have registered with the Jewish Agency for emigration to Israel. According to the committee which examined all applications there are 1327 who are unable to contribute towards the cost of transportation. I am waiting for the AJDC's decision on this question. In the meantime I advised the Jewish Emergency Committee to continue with the health, education and other services.
- I was unsuccessful in convincing the committee to postpone a large emigration for a year and to use the interval to prepare the people for life in Israel.
4. I shall keep you advised on further developments.

Kind Regards.

Sincerely Yours,





# ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

WOBURN HOUSE, UPPER WOBURN PLACE, W.C.1

Telephone : EUSTON 1331, 7713. Secretary : S. D. TEMKIN

17 March, 1949.

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

On looking through the papers for the next meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund I noted with great interest the information with regard to the emigration of the Jews of Aden to Israel.

I wonder whether there is any certainty as to those who have put themselves down for emigration actually leaving Aden in the very near future in which case there would be little purpose in our making the efforts intended for the rehabilitation of the Community's education system.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

*S. D. Temkin*  
S. D. Temkin  
Secretary.

BY HAND.





521212  
Colonial Office,  
The Church House,  
Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

My Reference 78774/1/49.

18th March, 1949.

Your Reference.....

Dear Mr. Bentwich,

Jewish Community in Aden.

Thank you for your letter No. NB/AF of 14th March about the Jewish Colonization Association's wish to help the Jewish community in Aden with loan funds.

The Governor of Aden has been informed, and has been asked by telegram whether he has any objection to Mr. Girmounsky visiting Aden to study the needs. I shall let you know when we receive his reply.

Yours sincerely,

(Sir B. Reilly.)

Norman Bentwich, Esq.,  
The Central British Fund  
for Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation.



52/a13

AIR MAIL

CK/LP

18th March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

I thank you for your letter of the 14th instant, about the position in Aden.

There is a certain discrepancy between the population figures as mentioned in your above letter and the figures ascertained by Professor Bentwich during his visit to Aden after the pogroms.

We shall, however, request Professor Bentwich to take up the matter with Mr. Viteles so that the number of Jews remaining in Aden, after the evacuation of those desirous of emigrating to Israel, can be fixed with an approximate degree of accuracy.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Melvin S. Goldstein, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



CK/LP

21st March, 1949.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

We are enclosing duplicated copy of a letter received from the American Joint Distribution Committee, dated the 14th instant. There is a certain discrepancy between the figures contained in this letter and your own estimate of the number of Jewish people in Aden.

May we ask you to be good enough to take up this matter direct with Mr. Viteles, so that the actual number of Jews remaining in Aden after the evacuation of those desiring to emigrate, can be fixed.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
Friends of the Hebrew University,  
97, Baker Street, W.1.



see A. 10.

521415

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

87-83  
INVALIDES } 87-55  
79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

Accounting general letter #1306

March 21, 1949.

answered

20<sup>th</sup>

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We are referring to your letter dated February 4, 1949 informing us that the Council of the Central British Fund has decided to make a grant of £ 3,000 to cover the medical expenditures for six months and a further grant of £ 2,700 to cover the cost of technical training (trade education) for a period of one year, in Aden.

We have now been informed by Mr. Viteles that in the months of January and February 1949 the following amounts were expended against the £ 3,000 allocation :-

|   |   |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|
| Salary and maintenance of nurse           | £ | 140. 0. 0            |
| Salary of visiting physician              |   | 80. 0. 0             |
| Food for patients                         |   | 385. 0. 0            |
| Milk for out-patients and school-children |   | 80. 0. 0             |
| One ton of Citrus Concentrates            |   | 260. 8. 0            |
| Medical supplies equivalent to \$ 456.52  | = | 114. 2. 7            |
| Cost of freight - French Francs 38,265    | = | 36. 2. 0             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              |   | <b>£ 1,095.12. 7</b> |

We will appreciate it if you will reimburse the above amount to our account with the Westminster Bank.

Very truly yours,

*Alex.*

ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ

AB/RK



146

F

NOTE OF A CONVERSATION WITH MR. MELVIN GOLDSTEIN,  
21st MARCH, 1949

---

Mr. Melvin Goldstein telephoned to say that the Joint had started on the 21st instant to move the Adenite Jews who had registered to go to Israel. All the Yemenite Jews, including those previously listed as ineligible, have already gone and they were now starting to move those Adenite Jews who had expressed the desire to go.

They are starting with the poorest, i.e. those who at present have no means of support in Aden and who desire to go to Israel. These number 2,043. It is not quite sure that they can take them all in view of the difficulties of transport but they are taking those that cannot help themselves. He would report the progress in due course.

Numbers of Jews in Aden.

I referred to the discrepancy in the numbers of Jews at present in Aden which appears from the last information received from the A.J.D.C. and that Professor Bentwich had stated that at the time of the pogrom there were 5,600 Jews in Aden, excluding 4,000 Yemenites who were later moved to the Hashed Camp.

According to the figures given by the Joint in their recent communications, there was a discrepancy of between 800 and 1,000 in the number of Jews now stated to be in Aden.

Mr. Goldstein promised to look into his figures and write us further in due course. He stated that one reason for the discrepancy might be the number of Adenites who were able to leave for Israel on their own resources and would not be included in the Joint's figures. He thought, however, that those people could not account for the discrepancy.

Infiltrates.

In regard to the alleged infiltration of Yemenites into Aden, reports of which had appeared in the Press (Manchester Guardian, etc.), Mr. Goldstein stated that in all, about 400 Yemenites had so far gone into Aden since the 1st February 1949. He would keep us advised as to any changes in the position.

-----



24th March, 1948.

LB: LG

My dear Harry,

I have <sup>just</sup> a letter from Mr. Goldstein of the A.J.D. to Stephany about Aden. We are perplexed about the numbers which you are said to have given of the Jews who will be left in the Aden community, if the 2,200 who have registered for emigration to Israel depart. It is said that there would then be only 400. The figure for the community given in Frusted's report last year was 5,200, apart from the Yemenites who were in the Hashid camp. If 3,000 more leave there should still be well over 2,000 left. If that were the case it might be worth while to rebuild the school and ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~Jerusalem~~ <sup>Jerusalem</sup> but if your figure is correct all the reconstruction plans would presumably fall to the ground.

I have seen Abramovitch, and he is very worried about his movements. Perhaps you will cable what the correct figures are as the result of your investigation.

NORMAN B. M. LICH.

Harry Viteles, Esq.,  
Haats Dag Hotel,  
Tel Aviv,  
Israel.



118  
25th March, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Oungre,

On the suggestion of Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid, I have been endeavouring to arrange for permission to be granted to enable your Mr. Victor Girmounsky to visit Aden in connection with the wish of your Organisation to help the Jewish Community there with loan funds.

I enclose herewith an original letter which has come to hand this morning from the Colonial Office, from which you will note that the Governor of Aden has no objection to Mr. Girmounsky's visit. I would, therefore, suggest that you make contact with the British Embassy in Paris with a view to obtaining the necessary permission for Mr. Girmounsky to start his journey.

I shall be glad to hear at your convenience that this letter has reached you safely.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Louis Oungre, Esq.,  
The Jewish Colonisation Association.  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance,  
Paris 8.



C O P Y.

Colonial Office,  
The Church House,  
Great Smith Street,  
S. W. 1.

My Reference 78774/1/49.

24th March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Bentwich,

Jewish Community in Aden.

Will you please refer to my letter of 18th March about the proposed visit of Mr. Girmounsky to Aden in connection with the Jewish Colonisation Association's wish to help the Jewish community in Aden with loan funds.

We have now heard from the Governor of Aden that he has no objection to Mr. Girmounsky's visit.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Sir Bernard Reilly.

NORMAN BENTWICH, ESQ.



521420

25th March, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Sir Henry,

I have this morning heard from the Colonial Office that the Governor of Aden has no objection to Mr. Victor Girmounsky visiting Aden in connection with the Jewish Colonisation Association's wish to help the Jewish Community in Aden with loan funds.

I have to-day written to Mr. Oungre advising him of this and have sent him the original letter which I have suggested he should present at the British Embassy with a view to obtaining the necessary visa for Mr. Girmounsky.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid, Bart.,  
Somerhill,  
Tonbridge,  
Kent.



52/401  
7 & 8, PRINCES STREET,

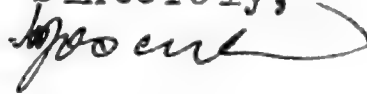
LONDON, E.C. 2.

26th March, 1949.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Herewith I am enclosing copy of the letter I have to-day received from Mr. Viteles. I have also sent copies to Diamond, Bentwich and Robert Carvalho, all of whom are interested in the position in Aden.

Yours sincerely,



H. O. Joseph.

Enc. also copy of letter to Mr. Pichon  
about Yemba Abizah.

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund for  
Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W. C. 1.



CK/IP

2112  
29th March, 1949.

Dear Professor Bentwich,

You will be interested in the contents of a  
letter <sup>received</sup> from Mr. Harry Viteles, copy of which  
I enclose herewith. They just cannot find the 1,400  
missing people.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor N. Bentwich,  
Friends of Hebrew University,  
97, Baker Street, W.1.



*F*  
JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

52/423  
Paris, le 29 Mars 1949.-  
29, rue de la Bienfaisance.

Adresse Télégraphique : Tcasso

Référence à Rappeler  
dans votre réponse

VG/HG

Annexes

The Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
L o n d r e s .-

Messieurs,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre MS/AC du 25 courant relative à la communication que vous avez reçue concernant l'octroi à M. Girmounsky d'un visa pour Aden. Nous vous en remercions bien vivement.

Le Consulat britannique de Paris a délivré déjà, au début de ce mois, ledit visa à M. Girmounsky, d'accord, paraît-il, avec le Gouverneur d'Aden. Le voyage de notre Sous-Directeur se trouve toutefois ajourné, du moins pour le moment.

Veuillez agréer, Messieurs, l'assurance de nos sentiments distingués.

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

*G. Girmounsky*



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, April 6th, 1949

חל-אביב

Dear Norman,

Re: A D E N I T E S

With reference to yours of the 24th ultimo received on the 5th instant. I had assumed that the A.J.D.C. Paris which cabled me about your doubts as to the correctness of the figures about the number of Adenites had forwarded to you my reply and my report on my visit to Aden last month.

2. The figure given in the Trusted Report about the number of Yemenite Jews in the Crater is inaccurate. We know that 711 Yemenite Jews were removed from the Crater to Hashid Camp after the December 1947 pogroms. We have transported 1400 Yemenites from the Crater and there are still about 230 there ( other than 250 who arrived in February and March this year ). This makes a total of 2340 Yemenites of whom about 200 arrived in 1948 leaving 2140.

|   |   |             |
|---|---|-------------|
| According to the Trusted Report there were          | } | 5200        |
| Jews in the Crater before the December 1947 pogroms |   |             |
| Less Yemenites                                      |   | 2140        |
| Estimated number of Adenites                        |   | <u>3060</u> |
| Census February 1949                                |   | 2639        |
| Difference  |   | <u>421</u>  |

It is estimated that 3-400 Adenites left Aden from December 1947 thru January 1949.

3. In January 1948 the J.E.C. census reported 4805 Jews living in the Crater. Of these, over 1300 were Yemenites and less than 3500 were Adenites. The February 1949 census reported 2639 Adenites or a decrease of nearly 900. Either the January 1948 census figures were padded in order to convince the government about the need to increase the number of rations, or there were more than 1300 Yemenites, or the number of Adenites who emigrated since December 1947 was more than 3-400. Mr. Schweid who was asked to check the February 1949 census figures, considers these as accurate. I enclose a copy of my letter to Paris wherein Mr. Schweid's letter is quoted.

4. Paris and I have written to Abramovitch who probably will be appointed to some country ( perhaps North Africa ).

With regards.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Viteles

Norman Bentwich, Esq.  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
LONDON, W.C.1

enc:



copy

March 31st, 1949

LETTER EL.22

TO : AJDC - PARIS  
FROM : HARRY VITELES - TEL AVIV

CENSUS FIGURES OF ADENITES

We quote herebelow from Mr. Schweid's letter of the 26th March received on the 30th :-

"POPULATION FIGURES - I repeat that I have no reason to doubt the approximate accuracy of the census. Both Qvaida Tuvia and Mr. Simon maintained all the time that the number of Yemenites in January 1948 was 1335, and not 805; the latter figure being the total of one of two lists, which are stated to have been submitted to you at the time. As there was certainly not more newcomers during the year than 250-300, it seems that they are right, otherwise how could we explain the actual existence of over 1600 Yemenites in Aden in February 1949? If you add these Adenites who left Aden during the year 1948 and early 1949, and make some allowance for "padding" the January 1948 census, you will have the reply to the problem."

"There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the census of the Adenites. It is of course possible that a very few persons were omitted but the difference must be very small. When the Aden Government distributed rations last year, the number of Adenites registered was around 2800. As about 100 had left for Israel at the time the census was taken, and considering the number of those who fled from Aden after the pogrom to Asmara etc. the census figures can be taken as correct."



CK/LP

11th April, 1949.

52/142K

NOTE ON ADEN.

The number of people moved from Aden up to the 8th April 1949, is 5,934. This figure includes all the people from the Hashid Camp, nearly all the Yemenites who were in the town and approximately 600 Adenites.

There is a new problem of small dimensions created by the arrival of Yemenite infiltrates at the rate of approximately 150 per month. Because of these infiltrates who are arriving in a pitiful condition and whose state of health is very bad, it will be necessary to keep the Jewish Hospital open for some time yet.

-----

C.H.



AIR MAIL

CK/LP

2nd May, 1949.

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

With reference to your conversation with Mr. Kapralik on the 9th April last, we have pleasure in informing you that the Council of the Central British Fund, at their meeting held on the 27th ultimo, agreed to make an additional grant of £250 for medical expenditure in Aden.

Yours sincerely,

M. Goldstein, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.

Secretary.



c o p y

52/428  
Encl to 51/5/12294/2  
Jewish Emergency Committee  
Aden  
4th May, 1949

To His Excellency  
The Acting Governor  
A.R. Thomas, Esq.,  
Secretariat, A D E N.

Your Excellency,

We have the honour to state that it has come to our knowledge that a number of Yemeni Jews trying to enter Aden, have been turned back some time last week. We wish to point out with the greatest respect, that this action is not in accordance with the letter dated 12th April 1949 by the Colonial Office, London, to Mr. A.L. Masterman, Political Secretary of the World Jewish Congress, London: in which it was stated "We are hoping to arrange for the ne arrivals to continue their journey onwards to Palestine with the help of Jewish Organisations..."

We shall feel highly grateful if the Government in keeping with their lofty traditions of humanity and sympathy for the poor and oppressed, will kindly allow these people to enter into the Colony of Aden, where they will remain for a short period, pending their Air-Lift to Israel.

As Jews, we feel sympathy for these people, who, in leaving the Yemen, have no doubt undergone great danger to their lives, and their return to the Yemen is not free from risks to their lives.

We may state that these people will be housed, fed and medically treated by the Jewish Organisations.

We trust our appeal to you will meet with the usual sympathy and that Your Excellency will be pleased to grant these Yemeni Jews an asylum in Aden for the short period, pending their Air Lift to Israel, as it has been done by our benign Government, for the past one hundred years of British rule.

Thanking you sincerely in anticipation of your favourable reply to our request.

Sd. S.M. Banin Chairman  
Jewish Emergency Committee  
Aden



NO.S.386

GOVERNMENT

copy  
OF ADEN

The Secretariat, Aden  
5th May, 1949

2/229

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th May and enclosure regarding the entry of Jews into Aden Colony.

It is the case that Restrictions are being imposed temporarily to check the movement of such persons into Aden until such time as Government is satisfied that adequate arrangements have been made for their onward transmission to Palestine, and that by their coming there is no danger to health or security. Out of these and political considerations and indeed, in the interests of the Jews themselves, it has been necessary to discourage immigration in this way until it was possible to be certain that no question of overcrowding or danger to life and property can arise.

Government is, however, prepared to allow Jews entry and lift the present restrictions and will raise no objection to their passing through Aden and Mukerias (subject in the latter case to the Sultan's permission), for Palestine, provided, but only provided, that arrangements are regularized.

In view of the present situation in Crater it is not considered desirable to allow these Jews to enter the Fortress area. It is therefore necessary that Camps and establishments should again be set up to accommodate these immigrant Jews so as to make remote any possibility of danger to health or security. While this question of establishing Hished Camp and a Camp at Mukerias (if the Sultan agrees) is being considered by you it is thought desirable that you should exert all possible influence to prevent a further influx of Jews into Aden.

It must also be emphasised that Government is anxious to see that there is no delay in arranging for the onward movement of these Jews so that there can be no question of any large and embarrassing increase in the population. If it appears that there is a danger of large numbers of immigrant Jews being unable to get away quickly or of any action being taken which Government considers will endanger security, I am to say that it would probably be necessary to reimpose the ban on any entry into the Colony again.

I am to add that Government cannot accept any financial responsibility or any responsibility for the arrangements to be made for these persons. Furthermore, it is considered that in view of the additional strain put upon the Police by the events of the past four months and the indirect cost which has been incurred by Government, the Jewish organization should pay for any special Police services which may be desired in connection with the maintenance of the Camp.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

(sd)

Acting Chief Secretary to the  
Government

The Chairman,  
Jewish Emergency Committee  
Aden



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, May 18th, 1949

חל-אביב

Mr. M. Stephany  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

ADEN COMMUNITY

In a few days I hope to send you a report about the activities of the emergency hospital for the first four months of 1949. I also will advise Paris with how much to debit the C.B.F. for medical expenses in March and April.

2. Mr. Berkowitz sent me a copy of your letter of the 29th March in which you raise some questions about the expenses for January and February. I drew Mr. Berkowitz's attention to the fact that the January/February account included £.311.0.7 which were non recurrent expenditures for citrus concentrates and for medical supplies. Therefore the balance, that is the difference between the total and the non recurrent expenses amount to less than £.800 or not much more than £.350 per month. I remember drawing Professor Bentwich's attention to the fact that Dr. Cochrane's estimate was on the low side particularly as we cannot possible obtain a Jewish matron for less than £.80-100 per month.

Other/ 3. I had previously advised you that over 2,200 of 2,640 Adenites had registered for emigration to Israel. You will also recall that early March, I visited Aden with the express purpose of urging the Adenites to postpone their emigration to Israel for a few months because I was convinced that the Adenites "cannot take it" under the present conditions. I was unsuccessful in this part of my mission but I was right in my prognosis. About 1,000 of the 2,200 who had registered for emigration have arrived in Israel. Most of these 1,000 were Adenites for whom the JDC paid the full cost of transportation and therefore may be considered as the poorer element who had nothing to lose by leaving Aden. Most of the 1,200 who had registered for emigration asked for a stay of two or three months in order to enable them to dispose their property at more reasonable prices than are being offered at the present. There also is some propaganda by our friend, Selim Banin, who more than anyone else urged immediate emigration and who now is urging the people not to emigrate. The JDC complied with the request and decided to discontinue the shuttle service for two or three months and has agreed, in principle, to renew the emigration in about two or three months of those who decide to emigrate. Of the 1,200 who registered and who have not emigrated, about 300 will pay their own fare and the JDC will have to pay full or part fare for the other 900. Another reason which made it difficult for some of those who registered to emigrate, was the Government of Aden's decision that those who had received loans must repay these loans or furnish additional security, as a condition for granting exit visas. I consider this attitude of the Aden Government most unfair and unjustified. I hope that you and your colleagues will be able to make some representations to the Government about this question.



CONTINUATION SHEET

Mr. Stephany

- 2 -

16.5.1949

4. I know that you are also interested in the question of the Yemenite Jews. In the course of my visit to Aden early March, the Governor refused to entertain the proposal that the JDC should not be compelled to dismantle the Hashed Camp and that the JDC also should be allowed to open a ~~transients~~ camp on the border of the Western Protectorate and the Yemen. The Governor insisted that he had agreed to the emigration of the Yemenites on condition that the Camp will be liquidated since the existence of the camp was an encouragement for the additional Yemenite Jews to infiltrate into the Crater. The Governor also admitted having requested the Imam to enforce the existing legislation forbidding the departure of the Jews from the Yemen and that he would ask the Legislative Council in Aden to approve a new legislation which would make it more difficult for Yemenites and particularly Yemenite Jews, to infiltrate into the Crater.

5. We have moved about 6,200 Yemenites. This number includes over 500 who infiltrated during 1949. There are still about 150 Yemenites in the Crater, nearly all of them aged, sick and incapacitated and their families who cannot, at least, for the present, emigrate to Israel.

6. The Aden Government now has advised the J.E.C. in Aden that it would be prepared to lift the restrictions imposed with regard to the admission of Jews from the Yemen to the Crater if the Jewish organizations (JDC) would agree to reopen the Hashed Camp, maintain and house the new arrivals and also undertake that the new arrivals would be emigrated to Israel within a reasonable time.

... A copy of the Government's letter to the J.E.C. is attached. The AJDC now is considering this proposal. Personally, I believe that it would be most difficult, if at all possible, to get the necessary staff which would be required for the Hashed Camp if it were to be reopened. I also consider that it would be better if we would house the Yemenite Jews who would arrive in the Crater where there is now sufficient accommodation. The Aden Government, however, appears adamant about allowing the Yemenite Jews to go into the Crater. The best solution would be if the Imam would grant entrance visas to JDC representatives who could study the question in greater detail on the spot and perhaps also take up the question of the orderly emigration direct from the Yemen to Israel. The possibilities of such visas being granted are very remote. According to Dr. Cochrane, the Aden Government is doing its utmost to prevent such visas from being granted.

7. In view of the fact that about 1600 Adenites will remain in the Crater, it would seem necessary for the emergency hospital to be continued. The Aden Community has contributed its participation of about 400 Rupees (per month in addition to the housing) to the end of June. The J.E.C. now refuses to honor their pledge to deposit their participation for the third quarter of 1949. They allege that the committee had 200,000 Rupees on deposit with the Exchange Bank which has had to close its doors. Therefore they are unable to contribute their participation. I therefore would hope that the C.B.F. will be able to make another grant for the second half of 1949 and also agree that the unused balance of £3,000 which the C.B.F. had appropriated for the first half of 1949 would be made available for the second half of 1949. An early decision will be appreciated so that we can negotiate with Mrs. Danon, the matron, to continue after the 1st of July.

8. I still think it would be best to postpone the final decision about rebuilding the Boys' School for at least three months. It may, however, be desirable to consider sending for six months, a good teacher to supervise the educational programme. Mr. Simon, the AJDC representative, has just cabled that he is prepared to stay in Aden until the end of September and perhaps until the end of the year. Mr. Simon, however, would need a competent teacher for the Boys' and Girls' schools.

Sincerely,

enl

HV:LLF



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST  
המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, May 20th, 1949 תל-אביב

REF. 51/5/12708

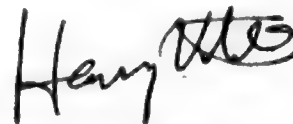
Mr. M. Stephany  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Emergency Hospital - Aden

... We send you herewith a copy of a Statistical  
Summary for January thru April 1949 relating to the  
Emergency Hospital, Aden.

Sincerely yours,



Harry Viteles

LLF

encl: 51/5/12708



51/5/12708

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL ADEN - STATISTICAL SUMMARY  
FOR JANUARY UNTIL APRIL 1949

Certain details were not received for January 1949

**1. Patients treated in the Hospital**

|          | <u>D O C T O R</u> |           |            |            | Dead | : | <u>M. T. R. O. N. (Nurse)</u> |         |     |      |          | Total |
|----------|--------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------|---|-------------------------------|---------|-----|------|----------|-------|
|          | New Cases          | Old Cases | Discharged | Admissions |      |   | Injections                    | Through | Ear | Eyes | Bandages |       |
| January  | 223                | ?         | ?          | ?          | ?    | : | :                             | :       | :   | :    | :        | 2535  |
| February | 226                | 400       | 12         | 9          | 1    | : | 40                            | 130     | 80  | 150  | 300      | 700   |
| March    | 171                | 200       | 12         | 10         | -    | : | -                             | 130     | 80  | 600  | 400      | 1210  |
| April    | 54                 | 200       | 12         | 16         | 1    | : | 500                           | 100     | 200 | 600  | 600      | 2000  |

**2. Milk distribution to Children and the poor**

|          | <u>To Children - Glasses during the month</u> | <u>To the poor - Bottles per day</u>                           |
|----------|---|--|
| January  | 5000  | 90   |
| February | 4200  | 23 at the commencement of the month<br>38 " " end of the month |
| March    | 2500  | 52   |
| April    | 2000  | 40   |

**3. Injections and inoculations for Emigrants**

In addition during the months of February and April smallpox inoculations and anti-typhoid injections were given to the Adenite emigrants and over 500 Yemenites who left Aden for Israel.

25:11F



CK/AC

27th May, 1949

NOTE FOR MR. JOSEPH RE: JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ADEN.

I. The following grants were made by the Central British Fund:-

|                     |   |                 |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|
| 31st December 1947. | For general relief purposes ...   | ... £3,000.     |
| 10th March, 1948.   | For general relief purposes,<br>medical expenses, clothing<br>and educational equipment ... | ... 27,400. †   |
| 1st February, 1949. | For medical expenditure ...   | ... £3,000.     |
|                     | Technical training ...  | ... £2,700.     |
|                     |   | <u>£16,100.</u> |

† towards which £1,000 was received from I.C.A. and  
£1,000 from an anonymous source.

The following payments were made on account of the above grants to the American Joint Distribution Committee:-

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
|                      | £            |
| 31st December, 1947. | 1,000        |
| 28th July, 1948      | 4,150        |
| 16th October, 1948   | 2,000        |
| 14th February, 1949  | 2,885        |
| 4th March, 1949      | 365          |
| 29th March, 1949     | <u>1,096</u> |
|                      | 11,496       |

II. A further vote of £4,500 was made on the 31st May, 1948 for the rebuilding of the School in Aden, towards which £2,000 was received from I.C.A. No payments were made in respect of this vote.

III. Moreover, two Special votes were made:-

|                   |                     |         |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 1st June, 1948.   | Yemenite Camp       | £3,550. |
| 27th April, 1949. | Medical expenditure | 250.    |

The amount of £3,550 was remitted in June, 1948.



NOTE.

CK/LP

27th May, 1949.

52/435

ADEN COMMUNITY

The following letter, dated 17th May, 1949,  
has been received from Mr. H. Viteles, of the A.J.D.C.

.....

The above is being circulated for the information  
of the Council.

At the meeting held on the 1st February 1949, it  
was reported that <sup>a</sup> grant of £3,000 <sup>to cover Medical Expenditure for 6 months, half a year</sup> for medical services,  
voted at the meeting held on <sup>1st Febr. 1949</sup>....., would last  
longer than six months. It does not appear, therefore,  
that further action in respect of the <sup>requested</sup> renewal of this grant  
to cover the last months of 1949, is required at present.

-----



# AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

TELEPHONE

87-83

INVALIDES

87-55

79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS

JOINTFUND-PARIS

ACCOUNTING GENERAL LETTER #1499

May 27, 1949.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

We are referring to our Accounting letter #1306 of March 21, 1949 in which we informed you that the expenses in Aden for the months of January and February 1949 amounted to £ 1,095.12. 7.

We have now been informed by Mr. Viteles that due to corrections the January and February 1949 expenditures should read as follows:-

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Salary and maintenance of matron - nurse  | £ 142.040          |
| Salary visiting physician                 | 70.040             |
| Food for patients (including preparation) | 263.163            |
| Milk for out-patients and school children | 140.802            |
| Medicines                                 | 75.134             |
| Transportation                            | 14.113             |
| One ton of Citrus Concentrates            | 260.400            |
| Medical supplies equivalent to \$456.52   | 114.128            |
| Cost of freight - French Francs 38,265    | 36.100             |
|   | <u>£ 1,115.920</u> |

This will show a difference of £ 20.292 in our favour.

The expenses for March and April 1949 are as follows:-

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Salary and maintenance of matron - nurse  | £ 149.540        |
| Salary visiting physician                 | 70.040           |
| Food for patients (including preparation) | 303.980          |
| Milk for out-patients and school children | 112.603          |
| Medicines                                 | 42.490           |
| Transportation                            | 6.620            |
|   | <u>£ 685.273</u> |
|   | 20, 285          |
|   | <u>705, 558.</u> |

.....No



May 27, 1949

52/437

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund.

---

We will appreciate it if you will reimburse the amount of £ 705.565 to our account with the Westminster Bank in London.

We forwarded your letter of March 29, 1949 to Mr. Viteles for his comments and we received the following information from him:-

- (1) The items for citrus concentrates and medical supplies were one time non recurrent expenditures.
- (2) Dr. Cochrane's estimate of £ 350. a month assumes the salary and maintenance of the matron will cost only £ 40. The cost is however considerably more. The salary of Mrs. Danon had to be increased in order to retain her services.
- (3) Since the Central British Fund appropriated £ 3,000 for the medical expenditures for six months, they obviously accepted our estimates rather than Dr. Cochrane's.
- (4) Mr. Viteles further states that only about half of the 2,200 people registered for emigration have been flown from Aden to Israel and that there will be little or no emigration of Adenites during the next two or three months. He does not know how many will emigrate when the air emigration is renewed.
- (5) The J.E.C. has contributed 1200 Rupees for the second quarter of 1949 but refused to honour its pledge for the third quarter. They claim to have had 20,000 Rupees in the Bank which had to close.

We trust that this information will be helpful to you.

Very truly yours,

  
ALEXANDER BERKOWITZ

AB/RK



52/138

L. i.

22. 5. 1949

Wm. B. Brinkard



52439  
1st June, 1949.

NOTE ON ADEN BY PROFESSOR BENTWICH.

I have read the letter from Mr. Viteles and I saw last week the Governor of Aden, Sir Reginald Champion, who regretted the large emigration of the Jewish Community.

3. I think it would not be any use to protest to the Government about their demand for repayment of the loans to those who have received this compensation and now wish to emigrate.  
The basis of compensation was to enable the Jews to re-establish their economic life in Aden, and the Government not unreasonably, would object to their taking away the money to Israel.
  6. I think the Government's request for the re-establishment of the Camp at Mashid to house the Yemenite Jews is reasonable. It would be likely to cause trouble if these Yemenites were in the Crater unemployed and in the present state of feeling, no risks of that kind should be run. The idea that the Imam of Yemen would grant visas for a Jewish mission to visit Yemen to study the position on the spot, is not hopeful because the present Imam is said to be reactionary.
  7. I think it would be helpful to allow the unused balance of the grant of the C.B.F. for the hospital to be available for the second half of this year. I doubt if it is necessary to engage a Jewish matron at this stage at a high salary. Some months ago, when the Community was larger, Dr. Cochrane, the principle medical officer of Aden wrote to me that he did not think that was necessary.
  8. I agree that the decision about rebuilding the boys' school should be held over. It is a great pity that the J.D.C. did not send Mr. Abramowicz to Aden to look after the education as well as the emigration, but it does not seem a very hopeful proposal to find a teacher for six months. There would be more chance of getting a teacher from Israel.
-



Ms. L. 1

1st June, 1949.

Dear Mr. Levy,

I am sending herewith for your information,  
one dozen duplicated copies of the letter sent by Mr. Vicoles  
regarding the position in Aden.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

M. Levy, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
Hoburn House.  
A. C. 1.



51/941

1st June, 1949.

ML/LG

Dear Mr. Tomkin,

I am sending herewith for your information one dozen duplicated copies of the letter sent by Mr. Vite regarding Aden.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

S. Tomkin, Esq.,  
Anglo-Jewish Association,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
N. C. 1.



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

2/1334/51

5/1947

Tel-Aviv, June 1st, 1949 חל-אביב

REF.

Mr. M. Stephany  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

I note some mistakes in my letter 52/10/12628 of the 17th ultimo.

Para 2.

We have moved 1396 Adenites of the 2200 who registered. Mr. Simon, our representative in Aden, estimated that 2-300 of the other 800 who registered will emigrate.

Para 5.

We have moved about 5600 Yemenites (and not 6100).

Para 7.

There are 1200-1300 Adenites and 100-125 Yemenites now in the Crater. I enclose a letter (copy) of the 15th ultimo received on the 30th ultimo from Mr. Yaish, of the Jewish Education Committee.

*Regard*

Sincerely yours,

*Harry Viteles*

Harry Viteles

IV:ILF

encl:51/5/13232



(51/5/13232)

51/14 43

c o p y

Aden 15th May, 1949

Harry Viteles, Esq.  
AJDC (Mid-East),  
Jerusalem.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

As a result of the aliyah from Aden to Israel which is, we understand coming to a temporary suspense on the 17th instant the community is in a state of turmoil and flux and its children are loafing in the streets for want of education. The result will be the degeneration of the children. The finances of the school were unfortunately deposited in the Exchange Bank of India and Africa which has gone into liquidation.

If you are interested in the education of the remnant children of this community one teacher could be sent to take care of education until the ultimate liquidation of the remnant.

In this connection, I wish to point out that the few, so as to speak well-to-do amongst the community, are really not interested in education but this negative attitude on the part of the few cannot absolve us from the duty of leaving no stone unturned for providing education for all and sundry.

As you know the Education Committee is not a Government which can impose taxes for the purpose.

I feel I shall be lacking in duty to my people if I do not appeal to you for assistance in this matter.

Thanking you sincerely in anticipation of your prompt action in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

B.J. Yaish  
Jewish Education Committee



52/4.44

CK/LP

5th June, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

We thank you very much for the comprehensive and interesting survey of the position in Aden, contained in your letter of the 17th ultimo. The letter was circulated and considered at the meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund at their meeting held on the 1st instant.

At the present rate of expenditure, the grant for medical purposes should last until approximately the end of August 1949, and we shall be glad to have your suggestions for the period up to the end of the year, in due course, when the question of the extension of the grant will be placed before the Council for their decision.

You will recall that at the beginning of this year, the Central British Fund voted an amount of £2,700 for technical training in Aden. Do you consider it likely that this grant will ever be used?

We fully agree with your suggestion that the decision about rebuilding the Boys' School should be postponed for at least three months and I shall be obliged if you will let me have your views on this matter when you consider the situation sufficiently clarified.

In your letter you also refer to the attitude of the Aden Government on the question of granting exit visas to persons who received loans by way of compensation for loss incurred in the riots and also to the Yemenite Jews who are infiltrating into the Aden Province.

/over



52/445

- 2 -

The matter was referred to the Board of Deputies of British Jews, who promised to take up the question.\* We shall inform you in due course about the result.

Yours sincerely,

\* with the Authorities.

Secretary.

H. Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
P.O. Box 221,  
Tel-Aviv.



CK/LP

5th June, 1949.

Dear Mr. Brotman,

You will recall that among the documents circulated for the last meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund, a letter from Mr. H. Viteles, of the American Joint Distribution Committee, about the position in Aden, was included. In this letter, Mr. Viteles referred to the attitude of the Aden Government which would not issue exit visas to persons who had received loans by way of compensation for loss incurred in the riots and requested that the British Bodies should make representations to the Government on this matter.

Members of the Council present felt that the Board of Deputies should take up this matter and you were good enough to promise to bring this and also the question of the attitude of the British authorities to Yemenite Jews who were infiltrating into Aden Province, before the appropriate Committee of the Board.

We shall be obliged if you will let us know the result of any steps taken so that we may pass the information to the American Joint Distribution Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

A.G. Brotman, Esq.,  
Board of Deputies,  
Woburn House.



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, June 7th, 1949

תל-אביב

REF.

Mr. M. Stephany

Woburn House

Upper Woburn Place

London W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Emergency Hospital - Aden

... With further reference to our 52/10/12827  
of the 20th ultimo we send you a copy of our  
letter of even date to our Paris Headquarters  
which is self explanatory.

Sincerely yours,

A.J.J.D.C. - Tel Aviv

LLF

encl: MISC.165



52/448

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Letter No. MISC.165

Tel-Aviv,

June 7th, 1949

תל-אביב

T O : AJDC - Paris

FROM : AJJDC - Tel Aviv

REF.

52/10/13546

Emergency Hospital - Aden  
Statistical Summary for April 1949

With further reference to our 52/10/12814 of the 19th ultimo. We give you herebelow summary of Mrs. Danon's report relating to the Aden Hospital, for the month of April 1949:-

| D o c t o r |            |        | : | N u r s e     |                   |          |
|-------------|------------|--------|---|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| New cases:  | Recurrent: | Deaths | : | Eyes          | : Ears:           | Bandages |
| : cases     | :          | :      | : | :cases        | : cases:          | cases    |
| 54          | 200        | 1      | : | 600           | 200               | 600      |
|             |            |        | : |               |                   |          |
|             |            |        | : | <u>Throat</u> | <u>Injections</u> |          |
|             |            |        | : | 100           | 500               |          |

MILK: For schoolchildren 2,000 glasses  
For Poor 800 bottles

A.J.J.D.C. - Tel Aviv

MS:LLF

cc to: C.B.F., London



15th June, 1949. 52/49

A D E N.NOTE ON CONVERSATION WITH MR. H. VITELES.

There are at present approximately 1,250 Adenites and 125 Yemenites in the Crater.

The Joint is now embarking on the 3rd phase of their evacuation programme for Yemenite Jews. After the evacuation of the Hashid Camp in February 1949, the Government had the whole camp dismantled and even the water pipes were taken out. The Joint has now been approached by the Government with the request to re-establish the camp, in which case the Government will then remove all restrictions on <sup>the entry of</sup> Yemenite Jews and use their influence on the Imam of Yemen to permit the immigration of Jews provided the Joint guarantees that all Yemenites thus admitted to the Aden territory will re-emigrate within a short time. The Joint has agreed to this and the rebuilding of the camp has been taken in hand. The cost involved for the erection will amount to approximately £8,000.

Hospital. There are at present 22 patients in the Hospital, nearly all of them suffering from T.B. Mr. Viteles reports that the Hospital is doing excellent work and the results are very satisfactory. The present grant of £3,250 voted by the Central British Fund will last until approximately the end of August. Mr. Viteles estimates the budget for the last 4 months of the year will be £2,000.

To my question whether the Joint still plans classes for technical training for which the C.B.F. voted £2,700, Mr. Viteles replied that this will probably not be the case.

-----  
C.K.



52/450

1 cu.

13

CK/IP

15th June, 1949.

Dear Mr. Joseph,

Re: Adm.

I am enclosing herewith a Note on a conversation with Mr. Viteles, for your files.

Re: J.E. Joseph Charitable Fund.

I am informed by Miss Stiebel that you would like to contact the Management of the above Fund and wish to know the name of the gentleman dealing with the matter. I understand his name is Mr. Dyson. His telephone number is City 1421.

Yours sincerely,

C. Kapralik.

H. Oscar Joseph, Esq.,  
7/8, Princes Street,  
E.C.2.



AM/EG

17th June, 1949.

Dear Captain Jacobs,

I understand from the office of the Hebrew University that you will be speaking with Professor Bentwich on Monday. May suggested to me to forward to you a copy of a cable received today in this office.

I should be very much obliged if you would mention this cable to Professor Bentwich as I believe he has been waiting for this information.

With very best thanks,

Yours sincerely,

Capt. A.C. Jacobs,  
Jewish Committee for  
Relief Abroad,  
7, Endsleigh Place,  
W.C.1.

C. Kapralik.



521452  
COPY OF A CABLE RECEIVED FROM TEL-AVIV (Received 17th June 1949.)

- NLT - BENTWICH MIGRATE LONDON :  
APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE TRANSMITTING PARIS  
YOUR CABLE STOP ASKING ADEN CHECK BECAUSE  
THEY CABLED TWOHUNDRED DEPORTED STOP WE  
SIGNED AGREEMENT WITH ALASKA AIRLINES WHO  
STATE THAT LANDINGRIGHTS ARRANGED AND  
SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUEL COMPLETED  
WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED REGARDS

- VITELES.



## CABLE &amp; WIRELESS LTD

ISSUING OFFICE

52/43

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PM 6 23

VIA IMPERIAL

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SENT OUT

BY

CW TVXA806/S400/16 TELAVIV 44 16 1640

- NLT - BENTWICH MIGRATE LONDON -

APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE TRANSMITTING PARIS  
 YOUR CABLE STOP ASKING ADEN CHECK BECAUSE  
 THEY CABLED TWOHUNDRED DEPORTED STOP WE  
 SIGNED AGREEMENT WITH ALASKA AIRLINES WHO  
 STATE THAT LANDINGRIGHTS ARRANGED AND  
 SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUEL COMPLETED

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL.



# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

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52/454

NO.

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2/NX4506  
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SENT OUT

BY

WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED REGARDS

- VITELES \*

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL.



CABLE &amp; WIRELESS LTD

NLT

6220

52/438

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PARTICULARS

VIA IMPERIAL

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NO.

SENT OUT

BY

PM 7 27

CW VXA1096/S472/17 TELAVIV 36 17 1535 =

/ NLT = BENTWICH MIGRATE LONDON =

ZEROONE REOUR SIXTEENTH ADEN GOVERNMENT

AGREED ADMISSION TWOHUNDRED OUR UNFINISHED  
CAMP CONDITIONAL IMMEDIATE EMIGRATION WHICH  
ARRANGING STOP ACCORDING SIMON GOVERNMENT

ESTIMATES INFLOW FIVE TO TWENTYTHOUSAND WITHIN  
TWO MONTHS STOP PUBLICITY UNDESIRABLE =

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark

VITELES





הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, June 19th, 1949 תל-אביב

REF.

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Aden

Your letter of the 5th instant (ref.CK/LP) arrived on the 14th instant, which is the one day that I spent in London and you were still on holiday. I lunched with Mr. Joseph and also had a half-an-hour with your assistant, Dr. K. I summarize the present position in Aden and the above mentioned conversations.

1. Medical Service in Aden -(hospital, dispensary, etc).

By referring to Mr. Berkowitz' letter to you of the 27th ultimo, you will note that the expenditures for medical services in Aden for the first four months of 1949 were about £1800. The estimated expenditures for May and June are about £700, which would make a total of £2500. The C.B.F. appropriated £3250 for the first half of 1949, therefore there will remain about £750 from this appropriation which, barring the unforeseen, would be sufficient to cover the expenses up to the 15th of August, or perhaps to the end of August 1949. Therefore I suggested that the C.B.F. should allocate another £2000 for the second half of 1949. This £2000 plus the estimated balance of £750 from the allocation for the first half of 1949, probably will be sufficient to cover the cost for the second half of 1949. There are still 22 patients in the hospital, most of them T.B. We also have forwarded to you, monthly reports about the number of patients we treated in the dispensary and also the quantities of milk which we distributed to the school children, expectant and nursing mothers, etc. In this connection I have to report that we have accepted Mrs. Danon's resignation, but it is not easy to find a replacement. I assume that Danon will not leave until the new appointee will report for duty.

2. Technical and Secular Education -

In addition to the £2700 which the C.B.F. appropriated for technical training in Aden, the C.B.F. voted another £4000 towards the cost of rebuilding the Boys' School. Inasmuch as there are only about 12/1300 Adenites, and 3/400 of these will emigrate, I think that the aforementioned two appropriations could be cancelled and used for other work in Aden. The Adenites who have not emigrated are the better to do people, as I explained to you in my letter of the 17th ultimo. I therefore suggest that the £2000 of the £2700 which was voted for technical training in Aden, should be used for medical services for the second half of 1949, and the other £700 plus the £4000 which was allocated for the rebuilding of the Boys' School, should be used for the purposes described in the next paragraph.



CONTINUATION SHEET

Mr. Stephany London

19.6.1949

52/457

3. YEMENITES -

a. You will recall that the Government of Aden compelled us to liquidate the Hashed Camp. The Government of Aden destroyed all of the buildings including the permanent structures; removed the water pipes and other installations, and the Hashed Camp is a mass of rubble.

b. About a month ago, the Aden Government announced a change of policy with regard to the Yemenite refugees. The Government declared that it was ready to lift the ban of entrance of the Yemenite Jews into the Protectorate and even to help unofficially and indirectly with the emigration of the Jews from the Yemen. As a condition, the Aden Government asked the JDC to establish and equip four reception centers on the Protectorate Yemen border; to establish and equip a new transit camp with a capacity of one thousand; to guarantee the maintenance of the refugees while in Aden and also their immediate transportation from Aden to Israel. The Aden Government estimates that there may be five to twenty thousand refugees during the next two or three months.

4. The J.D.C., in spite of very heavy commitments and difficult financial position, accepted the conditions of the Aden Government because this was considered as rescue work. The establishment and equipment of the transit camp only will cost £8-10000. There also will be required several thousand pounds investment in the reception centers and ~~camp for~~ other purposes. Arrangements also have been completed for air transport from the Protectorate Yemen borders to Aden, and from Aden to Israel. The Aden Government would not agree to our using the vacant Jewish houses in the Crater as a transit camp and the latter had to be established in the vicinity of the air field, which is about ten miles from the Crater.

5. I suggested to Mr. Joseph that inasmuch as Aden was a British Colony, that the C.B.F. should join hands with the J.D.C. in this important rescue work. Mr. Joseph explained that it is difficult for the C.B.F. to undertake an unlimited liability for an unlimited period. If this obstacle is difficult to overcome, as I hope will not be the case, then I suggest that the C.B.F. should provide the funds which were required as a one time investment for the establishing and equipment of the reception centers, camp etc., the total cost of which is estimated at about £12000. I assume that the C.B.F. could use for this purpose, the funds which were voted for technical training and towards the rebuilding of the Boys' School.

6. I also want to mention that Prof. Bentwich has been very helpful and in persuading the Colonial Office not to deport the 200 Yemenite Jews.

I think it would be interesting for you to make a short trip to Aden. Once you are in Israel we could arrange the transportation to and from Aden. Looking forward to seeing you and for the continued joint work between the A.J.J.D.C. and the C.B.F.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours

Harry Viteles

Hv:MEF



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ISSUING OFFICE



SENT OUT

43

RV

TVXA1253/S314/19 TELAVIV 33/31 19 1500

CW = NL = BENTWICH MIGRATE LONDON =

ZEROTWO YOUR FIFTEENTH SIMON CABLES QUOTE  
 SEVENHUNDRED NEVER ENTERED PROTECTORATE ONLY  
 RUMOUR STOP WAS TOLD SEVENHUNDRED TRIED  
 ENTER PROTECTORATE MUKERIAS SIDE SOMETIME AGO  
 REFUSED ENTRY UNQUOTE = VITELES



52459  
AM/EG

22nd June, 1949.

Friends of the Hebrew University  
97, Baker Street,  
W.1.

Dear Sirs,

/ I am enclosing herewith copies of three cables received in this office for Professor Bentwich. I have also forwarded copies to Captain Jacobs of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad. We have the originals in this office.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.



copy/

32/460

COLONIAL OFFICE,

100, WHITE HALL,

LONDON, E.C. 4.

S.M.I.

24th June, 1949.

Dear Barnett,

You will remember that in the House of Commons yesterday we discussed the question of certain Yemeni Jews.

The position is that the Government of Aden has always been willing to admit these Jews, who until a few days ago were in Dhala (British Protectorate), into a camp in Aden as soon as such a camp was properly equipped and adequate health safeguards could be made and arrangements made for onward transmission. Trouble was caused at the beginning of June by the fact that, instead of the agreed number of 200 Jews from the Yemen, 300 arrived. They have been maintained at a village on the road to Dhala by the Aden Jewish Community until their entry could be arranged and there has never been any question of repatriating them to the Yemen.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) DAVID REIS-ILLIAMS.

P. Jenner, Esq., M.P.



52/461  
CE/AC

24th June, 1949

POSITION IN ADEN

At their last meeting held on the 1st June 1949, the Council considered a Report from Mr. Harry Viteles on Aden.

It was then decided that the balance of the grant for medical work, unexpended on the 30th June 1949, should be used towards the cost of medical expenditure during the second half of the year.

A further Report has now been received from Mr. Viteles from which it appears that the amount of £3,250, voted by the Council for medical purposes, will be sufficient to cover the expenses up to the 15th August or possibly even to the end of August 1949.

Information was also received as to the work of the Aden Hospital during the month of April 1949, showing that the doctor dealt with 54 new cases and 200 recurrent cases, whilst the nurse dealt with 600 eye cases, 200 ear cases and 100 throat cases. She had further to administer 500 injections and to provide bandages in 600 cases. 2,000 glasses of milk were provided for school children and 800 bottles for needy persons. There are at present 22 patients in the hospital, most of them suffering from T.B.

At their meeting held on the 1st February 1949, the Council of the C.B.F. voted an amount of £2,700 for Technical Training in Aden. At present, there are only about 1,300 Adenite Jews in the Yemen, of whom 300-400 will emigrate. The A.J.D.C. feels, therefore, that the grant for Technical Training will not be required and requests that an amount of £2,000 be voted instead towards the cost of the medical expenditure in Aden during the second half of 1949.

Mr. Viteles further reported that when the Yemenite inmates of the Hashed Camp were transferred to Palestine in

P.T.O.



the early months of 1949, the Government of Aden dismantled the whole Camp and removed even the water pipes and other installations.

Recently, a change of policy was announced by the Aden Government with regard to the Yemenite refugees. The Government declared that it was ready to lift the ban on the entrance of the Yemenite Jews into the Protectorate and even to help unofficially and indirectly with the emigration of the Jews from the Yemen. As a condition, the Aden Government asked the J.D.C. to establish and equip four reception centres on the Protectorate Yemen border; to establish and equip a new transit camp with a capacity of one thousand; to guarantee the maintenance of the refugees whilst in Aden and also their immediate transportation from Aden to Israel. The Aden Government expects a heavy influx of refugees from the Yemen during the next few months.

The establishment and equipment of the transit camp alone will cost £8,000 to £10,000 and the establishment of the reception centres will cost approximately £4,000. The Aden Government would not agree to the use of vacant Jewish houses in the Crater as a transit camp and so the camp had to be established in the vicinity of the air field, which is about 10 miles from the Crater. Arrangements have been completed by the A.J.D.C. for the air transport from the Protectorate Yemen borders to Aden and from Aden to Israel.

In view of the fact that Aden is a British Colony, the J.D.C. requested the C.B.F. to join them in this work, which they consider to be important rescue work, and suggest that the C.B.F. should provide the funds which were required as a one-time investment for the establishment and equipment



of the transit centres and the transit camp, the total cost of which is estimated at about £12,000.

The A.J.D.C. further suggests that the amount of £700 remaining out of the grant for Technical Training (in case the Council agrees to allocate £2,000 out of its grant for medical purposes), and also the amount of £4,500 voted by the C.B.F. for the rebuilding of the school in Aden be re-allocated towards <sup>*the requested grant for*</sup> ~~the cost~~ of the establishment of the reception centres and transit camp for Yemenite Jews.

Professor Bentwich, who, having spent a considerable time in Aden, is well acquainted with the position, was requested by the Secretariat <sup>*to give*</sup> for his opinion in respect of the suggestion to cancel the grant for the rebuilding of the school. In Professor Bentwich's opinion, the position at present is still much too fluid to warrant such a decision. He feels that school-building may still prove ~~unnecessary~~ <sup>*eventually. in the event.*</sup>

The matter is submitted to the Council for their consideration.

-----



# CABLE & WIRELESS LTD

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VIA IMPERIAL

The first line of this Telegram contains the following particulars in the order named: Prefix Letters and Number of Message, Office of Origin, Number of Words, Date, Time handed in and Official Instructions, if any.

ISSUING OFFICE

NLT

NO.



SENT OUT

BY

CW

TVXA1273/S209/26 TELAVIV 43/42 26 1230 -

NLT - BENTWICH MIGRATE LONDON -

ZEROTHREE YOUR FIFTEENTH REGRET DUPLICATION  
CABLED SIMON POUNDS TWENTYTHOUSAND. FOR CAMP  
STOP PERSONNEL FLYING ADEN ABOUT TWENTYSIX  
BRINGING REFUGEES ISRAEL STOP GOVERNMENT  
SATISFIED ALASKA LANDING ARRANGEMENTS INSIST  
GUARANTEE TWENTYTHOUSAND WITHIN TWOMONTHS  
PARAGRAPH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE UNCONCERNED PROJECT  
REGARDS - VITELES \*



52/165

TEL AVIV 28th June, 1949.

BENTLICH MIGRATE LONDON

ZEROTHREE YOUR FIFTEENTH SECRET DUPLICATION CABLED SIMON POUNDS  
TWENTYTHOUSAND FOR CAMP STOP PERSONNEL FLYING ADEN ABOUT TWENTYSIXTH  
BRINGING REFUGEES ISRAEL STOP GOVERNMENT SATISFIED ALACMA LANDING  
ARRANGEMENTS INSIST GUARANTEE TWENTYTHOUSAND WITHIN TWOMONTHS  
PARAGRAPH EMERGENCY COMMITTEE UNCONCERNED PROJECT

REGARDS

VITELLES

Received C.B.F. 27th June, 1949.



52/466

28th June 1949.

Gen/AM

Dear Professor Bentwich,

With further reference to our telephone call of yesterday, I am enclosing herewith copy of a telegramme received at this office yesterday. We have retained the original at this office.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. N. Bentwich,  
Hebrew University,  
97 Baker Street,  
W.1



1  
COPY FOR MR. STEPHANY, CENTRAL BRITISH FUND. LONDON.

CABLE SENT TO

June 23th, 1949.

VITELES  
JOINTFUND  
TELAVIV

HAVE SPOKE AGAIN COLONIAL OFFICE WHO SATISFIED ABOUT CAMP  
AND AIRLIFT URGE CAREFUL REGULATION YEMENITE INFLOW SO THAT  
ONLY 500 WAITING IN CASE STOP ANY MASSMOVEMENT IMPERILS  
POSITION.

signed: BENTWICH.

A.J.D.C., 199, Piccadilly, London W.1.



52/368  
6th July, 1949.

IP/PW

Dear Mrs. Hoffman,

Further to our telephone conversation of this morning, I have pleasure in informing you that the amount of £705.11.3. paid to your account on the 1st June was in respect of a medical grant for work in Aden. This payment was made on the instructions of your Paris Office. (Accounting General Letter No.1499 of the 27th May, 1949, signed by Mr. Alexander Berkowitz).

I am sorry that we did not inform you of the details of this payment before, but we were under the impression that your Paris Office were in touch with you in this connection. Should we again be instructed to remit any monies to the credit of your London Account, we shall let you know immediately the payment is made.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Mrs. B. Hoffman,  
American Joint Distribution Committee,  
199, Piccadilly,  
W. 1.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

110, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

52469  
TELEPHONE

INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

July 6, 1949

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1

Dear Mr. Stephany:

This is in further reference to Mr. Viteles' letter to you of June 19, 1949 with regard to the program in Aden. The new airlift operation out of Aden is getting under way and last week a group of 200 was flown to Israel in two flights. The new camp, Geulah Beth, was scheduled for opening yesterday. It will accommodate at least 500 persons and there is a possibility that it may be able to accommodate an additional 500 as well should an emergency arise. Additional flights are scheduled to begin July 8.

It is still necessary, however, to maintain the small hospital established in Aden some time ago, primarily for a number of Yemenites who are suffering from tuberculosis and who require continued care. Mr. Viteles, in his letter of June 19, explained this matter and suggested that the Central British Fund allocate an additional £2,000 for the second half of the year, using for this purpose about £2,200 appropriated for trade education. We would like at this point to request you to permit us to utilize for medical purposes for the second half of this year £2,000 of the £2,200 appropriated for trade education.

The erection of the new camp in Aden, described in Mr. Viteles' letter of June 19, will cost approximately £8,000. In view of our difficult financial situation and further in view of the fact that the £4,000 appropriated by CBF for the rebuilding of the boys' school will not be required because of the recent large-scale emigration from Aden to Israel, we would ask you to permit us to apply this £4,000 towards the cost of the establishment of the camp.

We would appreciate hearing from you at your convenience.

Very sincerely yours,

*M. S. Goldstein*

Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary

MSG:mb



52/1070

Gen/AM

8th July 1949.

Dear Mr. Bentwich,

I am enclosing herewith the letter and a copy to  
Mr. Kynaston-Sne~~ee~~<sup>eb</sup>, and hope that you will find it in order.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. N. Bentwich,  
Hollycot,  
Vale of Health,  
N.W.3.



8th July 1949.

NB/A

My dear Kynaston-Sne**ll**,

I was terribly sorry that I had to rush off from the party yesterday without having a talk with you. If you are going to be in town one day next week, we must meet and you must come and sup with us any day but Thursday. But in case we do not meet I want you to give us your advice about the Jewish schools in Aden.

The position of the Central British Fund, from whose office I am writing, is that they voted some thousands of pounds towards the rebuilding originally of the girls' school and when the Community in Aden said that it was the boys' school that was to be rebuilt they agreed that the money could be used from that purpose. But now as there has been the emigration of far the largest part of the Community, it is felt that the rebuilding of the big school is not required. At the same time, the Council is anxious to know what are the needs for a Jewish school. We are informed that not more than 1,200 remain or will soon remain in Aden. What is your advice about their education, and about their need of outside help? Can the Community provide what is required? The Central British Fund is helping the Community with funds for the hospital and medical work.

I should be very grateful if you would send your reply to Mr. Stephany who is the secretary of the Central British Fund and knows the whole position of the Council better than anybody. And he would be very glad to talk with you about it whenever you are in London.

.....



62/4/7

I saw Rudd at the Corona dinner and ran into  
Crawshaw in the street, but I had <sup>hope</sup> that we could meet  
before I fly to Jerusalem on the 17th.

Norman Bentwich.



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, July 8th, 1949 תל-אביב

REF.

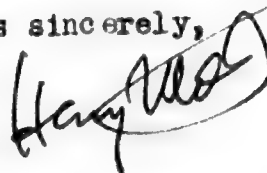
Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London W.C.1  
ENGLAND

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Emergency Hospital - Aden  
-----

.. We enclose herewith a copy of our letter of  
even date (No. MISC.190) to our Paris Headquarters  
giving statistical summary of the Aden Hospital for  
the month of May 1949.

Yours sincerely,



Harry Viteles

LLF

encl: as above



52/974

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, July 8th, 1949

תל-אביב

REF

Letter No. MISC. 190

To : AJDC - Paris

From: AJJDC - Tel Aviv

**EMERGENCY HOSPITAL - ADEN**  
**STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR MAY 1949**

With further reference to our MISC.185 (52/10/13506) of the 7th ultimo. We give you herebelow summary of Mrs. Danon's report relating to the Aden Hospital for the month of May 1949:-

| D o c t o r |         |         |         | N u r s e |          |        |            |         |  |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|------------|---------|--|
| New         | :Recur: | Deaths: | Admiss- | :Home     | :Ear     | : Eye  | :Bandages: | Inject- |  |
| cases       | :rent : | : ions  | : ions  | :Visits:  | Cases :  | Cases: | Cases      | :ions:  |  |
|             | :cases: | :       | :       | :         | ::       | :      | :          | :       |  |
| 120         | : 250 : | 2 :     | 6 :     | 3 :       | :: 150 : | 220 :  | 400 :      | 560 :   |  |

Milk distribution: For schoolchildren - 6200 glasses  
For poor - 1085 bottles

  
Harry Vitales

IT:LLF

cc to: C.B.F. London.



Telephone: EUSon 3952-4

Telegrams: DEPUTIES, KINCROSS, LONDON

THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES OF THE BRITISH JEWS

*generally known as*

# The Board of Deputies of British Jews

President:  
REV. DR. A. COHEN.

Vice-Presidents:  
BARNETT JANNER, M.P.  
ALD. A. MOSS, J.P.

Treasurer:  
B. B. LIEBERMAN.

Solicitor:  
CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL.

Secretary:  
A. G. BROTMAN.

Mr. M. Stephany,  
Secretary,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

8th July, 1949.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

You will remember that at the C.B.F. meeting before the last, questions concerning Aden were raised on the basis of a letter from Mr. Viteles, and the Board was asked to take up certain of these questions.

I enclose for the information of the Council two copies of letter addressed to Mr. Janner, M.P., who on behalf of the Board raised the relevant matters with the Colonial Under-Secretary.

Yours sincerely,



Secretary.



7th July, 1949

78008/3/49.

## Part II Aden.

You will remember that last month you handed me a Note on the present position in Aden in regard to Jewish emigration. A copy of your Note was sent to the Acting Governor of Aden for his comments, and his reply has now been received.

With regard to the matters mentioned in the Note the Acting Governor says that:-

(a) It is true that intending emigrants have been asked to refund loans before being allowed to proceed to Israel. These loans were all issued for business purposes, and it was not considered that any hardship resulted from this demand for a refund. The scheme of assistance was based on a desire to help the economic rehabilitation of the Jewish community in Aden, and it was not the intention of the Government of Aden to grant assistance to persons living outside the Colony or intending to emigrate. So far only three persons have repaid their loans, and the Acting Governor states that there is a general impression that many Aden-born Jews who had previously registered themselves for emigration to Palestine are now less anxious to go there because of the very high cost of living and liability to conscription. The Acting Governor asks whether the Board of Deputies can give the names of any particular Jews in Aden who wish to apply for special consideration; if so, he states that full consideration will be given to their requests.

(b) Hashed camp has been dismantled by the Jewish Distribution Committee and no longer exists. The Aden Government has, however, leased to the Committee at a peppercorn rent the camp opposite the old Hashed Camp where the Aden Protectorate Levies Guard were stationed subsequent to the riots of December, 1947. This camp is estimated to hold 500 persons at present, and it is being considerably expanded. The Acting Governor understands that the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has provided a team of doctors, nurses and administrators as before. There is no intention on the part of the Government of Aden to prevent Yemeni Jews from making Aden a staging post in their journey to Palestine, provided that security and health precautions are observed and that their onward transmission at an early date is assured. It has now been reported to the Acting Governor that a further airlift contract has been signed, and was to operate from the end of June. The Acting Governor states that it is estimated that between 25,000 and 35,000 Jews may emigrate from the Yemen, and he trusts that measures will be taken to regulate the flow, as otherwise the danger to health and the threat to security would be very real. I hope that the importance of this point will be borne in mind, and that there will not be in Aden at any one time greater numbers of Yemeni emigrants than the camp can accommodate, or than can be sent quickly on their way to Israel.

(c) With regard to the suggestion that the Aden Government should assist the Joint Distribution Committee representatives to obtain the permission of the Imam to enter the Yemen in order to take up with the Yemeni authorities the question of direct emigration from that country, the Acting Governor understands that the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is no longer pursuing this proposal.

their



52/477

Their reasons for dropping it are understood to be the recent receipt of reports that the Imam has now granted Jews permission to leave the Yemen ( and to return to it if they so wish), and the agreement of the Aden Government to Yemeni Jews coming to the Colony of Aden in transit for Israel. This confirms the information that I recently gave you in my letter of 24th June.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) D.R. REES-WILLIAMS.



2/9/49

CK/L

11th July, 1949.

Dear Mr. Viteles,

With reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo, I write to inform you that the following re-allocation of grants was decided at the meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund held on the 6th instant:-

- (a) The grants of £2,700 and £4,500 for technical training, and the re-building of the Boys' School, respectively, were cancelled.
- (b) The amount of £2,000 was allocated towards the cost of medical expenditure in Aden, during the second half of 1949.
- (c) An amount of £4,000 was allocated towards the cost of establishing the Reception Centre and the Camp for Yemenite refugees in Aden.
- (d) An amount of £1,200 <sup>was</sup> to be reserved towards any future educational needs in Aden.

Kindest regards and best wishes for your work.

Yours sincerely,

H. Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
Office for the Middle East,  
Tel-Aviv.

Secretary.



52/4/9

CK/LP

11th July, 1949.

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

I thank you for your letter of the 6th instant, and have pleasure in enclosing herewith, copy of our letter of even date addressed to Mr. Viteles, in reply to his letter of the 19th June last.

You will see that the decisions of the Council of the Central British Fund, correspond exactly with your suggestions.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Melvin S. Goldstein, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution  
Committee,  
119, Rue Saint-Dominique,  
Paris. 7.



Telephone: EUSton 3952-4

Telegrams: DEPUTIES, KINCROSS, LONDON

THE LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES OF THE BRITISH JEWS

*generally known as*

# The Board of Deputies of British Jews

President:  
REV. DR. A. COHEN.

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Treasurer:  
B. B. LIEBERMAN.

Solicitor:  
CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL.

Secretary:  
A. G. BROTMAN.

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

11th July, 1949

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Secretary, Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Re Aden

In the statement from the Colonial Under Secretary which I sent you on Friday there was mention of a previous letter from him to Mr. Janner. I did not have this letter with me at the time and have only just received it from Mr. Janner.

I enclose two copies for your information.

yours sincerely,

*agb*

Secretary.

AGB/LG.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

521481

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE  
PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE  
INVALIDES } 87-83  
              } 87-55  
              } 79-37  
CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

July 15, 1949

Mr. M. Stephany  
Central British Fund  
Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C. 1


Dear Mr. Stephany:

This is to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of your letter of July 11, 1949 with which you sent us a copy of your letter to Mr. Viteles setting forth the decisions of the Council of the Central British Fund with regard to the re-allocation of funds for Aden.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your prompt action on our request. At the present time the camp in Aden is in operation and several hundred refugees are being maintained there prior to movement to Israel. A large number of these people require medical treatment before they can proceed to Israel and the grant of the Central British Fund toward the work in this area will be of very great assistance.

We shall, of course, keep you advised of developments.

Sincerely yours,

  
Melvin S. Goldstein  
Assistant Secretary



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv August 2nd, 1949

תל-אביב

REF

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central British Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

With further reference to your letter of the 11th ultimo (CK/LP) which arrived only on the 31st ultimo. I very much appreciate your assistance in getting the Council to appropriate £2,000 for the medical programme in Aden Community during the second half of 1949, and £4,000 "towards the cost of establishing the Reception Centre and the Camp for Yemenite refugees in Aden." I assume that the £2,000 for medical services, is in addition to the balance which remains from the £3,250 which the Council allocated for the first half of 1949 (see our letter 52/10/13921 of June 19th, 1949). In a few days I hope to be able to send you the accounts for May and June.

... 2. I am attaching a copy of a table which shows the arrivals of Yemenites thru the 29th ultimo, the total number is 733. At the present time there are about 1,000 in the camp and another 1,000 - 1,500 at the borders who will be admitted into the camp as soon as we take out some of those already in the camp.

... 3. As you probably know, we had accepted the condition which the Aden Government made that the maximum number in the transit camp, exclusive of those being treated for eye trouble and other curable diseases and their dependents, would not exceed 1,000. The establishment of this camp has cost us over £8,000. We are now considering the proposal to enlarge the camp to a capacity of 2,000 so that in the event the Government will decide to reimpose restrictions on the admission of the Yemenite Jews into Aden, we would then have a reservoir of 2,000 to send to Israel. In view of the attached copy of Mr. Simon's memo of the 26th ultimo, we may be unable to get the Government's consent to enlarge the camp. Dr. Schwartz spent a week in Israel and left for Paris yesterday. He promised to forward to you a copy of the attached memo and also to telephone you and ask whether it would be possible for you to intervene with the Colonial Office about the new situation which has arisen. I have not yet received any further word from Mr. Simon. In a few days Mr. Schweid will be going to Aden.



CONTINUATION SHEET

- 2 -

Mr. M. Stephany

2. 8. 1949

6. The Jewish Agency has agreed that until such time as we have adequate medical staff and other personnel, they will not insist on the curables remaining in Aden. They are planning to open an isolation camp in Israel for 4,000 souls.

The question of personnel is exceedingly difficult. The doctor we now have and who is in-charge of the hospital, will leave at the end of the week. It may be difficult to replace him, therefore we shall have to use one of our nurses. As you know, Mrs. Danon who was the matron of the hospital for one year left Aden a few weeks ago.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harry Viteles


HV:LLF

encl: EM.59  
52/14/15442

cc to: AJDC - Paris

D.S.

----- We have just received good news from Mr. J. Simon in Aden that the questions dealt with in his attached memo of the 26th ultimo have been settled satisfactorily. However there is a delay in transportation because the only plane is delayed in Aden due to engine trouble. We expect the Skymaster any day which together with the Commando plane, after being repaired, should suffice for the expeditious transportation of the Yemenites from Aden to Israel.





August 1st, 1949

Letter :EM. 59

To : Dr. J. J. Schwartz  
Paris  
From : Harry Viteles  
Tel-Aviv

EMIGRATION OF YAHENITES

We give you below data relating to the emigration of Yamenites from Haifa :

| Age | 1-10  | 11-20 | 21-30 | 31-40 | 41-50 | 51-60 | 61-70 | 71-80 | 81-90 | 91-100 | TOTAL |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| 1   | 100.0 | 11    | 12    | 16    | 69    | 108   |       |       |       |        |       |
| 2   | 11.7  | 3     | 20    | 21    | 53    | 97    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 3   | 7.7   | 10    | 19    | 9     | 62    | 100   |       |       |       |        |       |
| 4   | 15.7  | 8     | 13    | 16    | 54    | 91    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 5   | 17.7  | 3     | 7     | 7     | 38    | 55    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 6   | 20.7  | 6     | 13    | 6     | 37    | 62    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 7   | 22.7  | 4     | 9     | 4     | 41    | 56    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 8   | 24.7  | 7     | 16    | 1     | 33    | 57    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 9   | 27.7  | 1     | 7     | 7     | 34    | 49    |       |       |       |        |       |
| 10  | 29.7  | 4     | 12    | 4     | 38    | 58    |       |       |       |        |       |
|     |       | 55    | 128   | 91    | 459   | 733   |       |       |       |        |       |

*Harry Viteles*  
Harry Viteles



Aden,  
26th July 1949.

To: Mr. Harry Viteles, Tel-Aviv  
From: J. Simon, Aden.

As it will be recalled, I cabled on the 24th July and wrote in my letter of the 23rd July that we were going to open the first organised border point - Lodhar. Allen, the British Agent, himself spent a week up country, and prior to his departure we agreed that he was going to make the necessary arrangements for the transportation of the Lodhar pocket.

A few days after his departure, a wireless message came through from him, announcing the dispatch of 500 people at the rate of three lorry-fuls a day - but none arrived.

Allen came back on Sunday, the 24th, and I saw him the following morning, when he told me that he had sent the Lodhar people off in accordance to his message, but that the Sultan of Fathly was obstructing. What actually happened at Fathly's place, Shukara, where Allen spent one or two days, cannot be known, but he claims that the Sultan agreed, disagreed and agreed again a number of times in quick succession. When Allen finally left Shukara, however, he had his final agreement. Fathly, in spite of this, changed his mind again, and when the first load came down from Lodhar to Shukara, he held the people. Allen sent up his Political Agent (Bell) and sent a message to his second agent at that time in Lodhar (Abdulla Hassan) to proceed to Shukara, to persuade Fathly to stand by his agreement.

The outcome of this should have been communicated to Allen, and from him to me, today, but this morning Allen called me to his office, where he already had with him Bell and the Sultan of Fathly. He did not want me to meet Fathly; he only kept me in readiness should my presence be needed, as it appeared later that he thought that a bribe might help. However, as Allen told me after Fathly had left, he was absolutely unwilling to give permission, and no amount of persuasion on his part was effective. Allen believes that it is out of religious conviction (which is in contradiction of what he told me before that Fathly kept the Rammadhan but drank a lot) and that no amount of money or anything would help. He admitted, though, that an order from the Aden Government would settle the matter. But he is unwilling to recommend, and would even oppose, the giving of such an order on the following grounds:

- a. it would be published immediately in the Egyptian press;
- b. the fulfillment of this order would entail military operations.

Both points do not hold, the first being outright ridiculous, as the Colonial Office's original announcement and the evidence of a refugee camp in Aden were, presumably, widely publicised, and the second allegation has been contradicted by what another High Government official (Goepfel) told me - not knowing yet these developments - that it was a nonsense because the Sultan must do what he was told. Besides, Mr. Allen himself contradicted this when he said that Fathly would obey if he were given an order by Government



26.7.1949

50.9/6

I made this analysis of the situation in order to support my view of this matter as follows :

I think that Allen, about whose capacities as British Agent I have a poor view, has probably messed things up with Fathly whilst staying in Shukara. Otherwise, I do not see why Fathly asked for, and Allen refused to give an order. The danger of this situation is that once Fathly shows the flag, all the others will do the same as all these Sultans want to share the responsibility - and that would mean the complete disavowal of the operation.

The solutions offered by Allen were :

1. To see on Friday, the 24th, the Naib (a sort of Regent who does the actual work of governing, who was the person with whom the original agreement was concluded and who is very much in favour of it) and see to it that he uses his persuasive powers on his Sultan, Fathly.
2. As Fathly asked for a passport (and was refused,) to visit the Mejaz officials, Allen will now give it to him, and in his absence the Naib will act alone and, therefore, favourably. However, it will take five weeks before Fathly leaves.

The third alternative which I offered Allen was to open immediately the remaining border points because I believe that if Fathly sees that all the others are carrying out the plan, he will change his mind and follow suit rather than the other way about, which was Allen's opinion - that all the Sultan's would follow Fathly in refusing passage to the immigrants.

Tomorrow I am going to see Mr. Newland, and I intend to base my whole case on the necessity of the Government giving an order to Fathly, as in the original agreement they had taken upon themselves to see to it that the Sultans obeyed. Making our whole operation on this undertaking, we had invested large sums of money in the building of the camp, engaging and sending staff down from Israel, not to speak about our contract with Alaska. I shall inform you of the outcome of this meeting.

In the meantime, people are coming in through Lahel, partly from Dhala (organised) and partly from the Thaiz region (unorganised). Allen thinks that this will not stop right now, as he intends to keep the Fathly incident a secret from the other chieftains until he has a conference with them. He agrees to try my plan to open up the other points as a test case, but Mokeras airfield will not be serviceable before a week's time, due to the heavy rains.

I cannot say whether it is advisable yet to contact London on this matter until after I have seen Newland and, possibly the Governor.

Another conjecture of mine, which may sound rather far-fetched, is that Champion might have staged the whole thing in connection with the Middle East Conference in London, and of course, there is yet the possibility that behind the whole thing there is something unknown to us as yet but which will become known in due time.

J. Simon



2, Austin Avenue,  
Parkside, Dorset.

3. 8. 45.

52/1087

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Bulwich has  
written to me about the Jewish  
School in Aden & suggested  
that I should get in touch  
with you. I feel, however, that  
I ought not to speak until my  
return to Aden. I will therefore  
write to you from there about  
the middle of September.

Yours sincerely,

A. F. G. Gaston.

(Director of Education)



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE

TELEPHONE

EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL

PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

INVALIDES | 87-83  
| 87-55  
| 79-37

CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

August 10, 1945

Dear Sirs,  
I am pleased to inform you  
that the American Joint  
Distribution Committee has  
received from the United States  
Government a grant of \$1,000,000  
for the relief of the Jewish people  
in Europe.

Very truly,  
Yours,  
Charles Passman

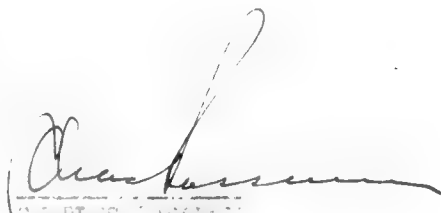
The American Joint Distribution Committee has the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst. regarding the grant of \$1,000,000  
for the relief of the Jewish people in Europe.

The American Joint Distribution Committee has the honor to acknowledge  
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the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst. regarding the grant of \$1,000,000  
for the relief of the Jewish people in Europe.

Very truly,  
Yours,  
Charles Passman

Yours truly,  
Charles Passman

  
CHARLES PASSMAN

CC: [illegible]



52/489

S O P Y

(52/14/15442)

Aden 26th July 1949

To : Mr. Harry Viales, Tel Aviv  
From: J. Simon, Aden

As it will be recalled, I cabled you on the 24th July and wrote in my letter of the 23rd July that we were going to open the first organised border point - Lodhar. Allen, the British Agent himself, spent a week up country and prior to his departure we agreed that he was going to make the necessary arrangements for the transportation of the Lodhar pocket.

A few days after his departure, a wireless message came through from him, announcing the dispatch of 500 people at the rate of three lorry-fuls a day - but none arrived.

Allen came back on Sunday, the 24th, and I saw him the following morning, when he told me that he had sent the Lodhar people off in accordance to his message, but that the Sultan of Fathly was obstructing. What actually happened at Fathly's place, Shukara, where Allen spent one or two days, cannot be known, but he claims that the Sultan agreed, disagreed and agreed again a number of times in quick succession. When Allen finally left Shukara, however, he had his final agreement. Fathly, in spite of this, changed his mind again, and when the first load came down from Lodhar to Shukara, he held the people. Allen sent up his Political Agent (Bell) and sent a message to his second agent at that time in Lodhar (Abdulla Hassan) to proceed to Shukara, to persuade Fathly to stand by his agreement.

The Outcome of this should have been communicated to Allen, and from him to me, today, but this morning Allen called me to his office, where he already had with him Bell and the Sultan of Fathly. He did not want me to meet Fathly; he only kept me in readiness should my presence be needed, as it appeared later that he thought that a bribe might help. However, as Allen told me after Fathly had left, he was absolutely unwilling to give permission, and no amount of persuasion on his part was effective. Allen believes that it is out of religious conviction (which is in contradiction of what he told me be ore that Fathly kept the Ramadhan but drank a lot) and that no amount of money or anything would help. He admitted, though, that an order from the Aden Government would settle the matter. But he is unwilling to recommend and would even oppose, the giving of such an order on the following grounds :

- a. it would be published immediately in the Egyptian press;
- b. the fulfillment of this order would entail military operations.

Both points do not hold, the first being outright ridiculous, as the Colonial Office's original announcement and the evidence of a refugee camp in Aden were, presumably, widely publicised, and the second allegation has been contradicted by what another high Government official (Goepfel) told me - not knowing yet these developments - that it was a nonsense because the Sultan must do what he was told. Besides, Mr. Allen himself contradicted this when he said that Fathly would obey if he were given an order by Government.

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I think that Allen, about whose capacities as British Agent I have a poor view, has probably messed things up with Fathly whilst staying in Shukara. Otherwise, I do not see why Fathly asked for, and Allen refused to give an order. The danger of this situation is that once Fathly shows the flag, all the others will do the same as all these Sultans want to share the responsibility - and that would mean the complete closedown of the operation.

The solutions offered by Allen were :



Mr. Simon Aden

26th July 1949

1. To see on Friday, the 29th, the Naib (a sort of Regent who does the actual work of governing, who was the person with whom the original agreement was concluded and who is very much in favour of it) and see to it that he uses his persuasive powers on his Sultan, Fathly.

2. As Fathly asked for a passport (and was refused) to visit the Hejaz officially, Allen will now give it to him, and in his absence the Naib will act alone and, therefore, favourably. However, it will take five weeks before Fathly leaves.

The third alternative which I offered Allen was to open immediately the remaining border points because I believe that if Fathly sees that all the others are carrying out the plan, he will change his mind and follow suit rather than the other way about, which was Allen's opinion - that all the Sultan's would follow Fathly in refusing passage to the immigrants.

Tomorrow I am going to see Mr. Newland, and I intend to base my whole case on the necessity of the Government giving an order to Fathly, as in the original agreement they had taken upon themselves to see to it that the Sultans obeyed. Basing our whole operation on this undertaking, we had invested large sums of money in the building of the camp, engaging and sending staff down from Israel, not to speak about our contract with Alaska. I shall inform you of the outcome of this meeting.

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I cannot say whether it is advisable yet to contact London on this matter until <sup>after</sup> I have seen Newland and, possibly, the Governor.

Another conjecture of mine, which may sound rather far-fetched, is that Champion might have staged the whole thing in connection with the Middle East Conference in London, and of course, there is yet the possibility that behind the whole thing there is something unknown to us as yet but which will become known in due time.

J. Simon



52/911

הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, August 22nd, 1949

תל-אביב

REF. ....

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central Relief Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Yemenites

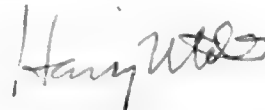
... We send you herewith exchange of correspondence between Mr. Brotman and ourselves regarding this matter. We apologize for the oversight in not having sent them before now, but you will appreciate that due to the exigencies of work, such a thing is not impossible.

2. The Skymaster started operating on the 14th instant and already has brought in 663 Yemenites, making a total brought to date to Israel, 1,396 in this third phase of Magic Carpet Operation. Publicity at this stage is inadvisable.

3. Mr. Schweid, who has just spent five days in Aden, reports that there are over 3,000 in the Camp and 1,500 waiting to be admitted, with thousands on their way from the Yemen. Our biggest problem is that we have not found doctors to send out. Could you possibly find two doctors - including an eye specialist - who would be willing to go to Aden for 2 - 3 months? We should be most grateful to you if you could arrange this.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Harry Viteles

HV:LLF

encl:52/10/15862  
16004

cc to: AJDC - Paris



52497

(received 8.8.49) (52/10/15862) COPY

THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS

LONDON, W.C.I.

29th July, 1949.

Mr. H. Viteles,  
c/o American Joint Distribution Ctte. Inc.,  
Office for the Middle East,  
TEL-AVIV.

Dear Viteles,

Some time ago you wrote to the Central British Fund about the position in Aden and suggested that we might in England take up certain matters with our Government.

The Board of Deputies in fact did so at the request of the C.B.F. and I send you herewith relevant extracts of a letter we have received from the Colonial Office.

" (a) It is true that intending emigrants have been asked to refund loans before being allowed to proceed to Israel. These loans were all issued for business purposes, and it was not considered that any hardship resulted from this demand for a refund. The scheme of assistance was based on a desire to help the economic rehabilitation of the Jewish community in Aden, and it was not the intention of the Government of Aden to grant assistance to persons living outside the Colony or intending to emigrate. So far only three persons have repaid their loans, and the Acting Governor states that there is a general impression that many Aden-born Jews who had previously registered themselves for emigration to Palestine are now less anxious to go there because of the very high cost of living and liability to conscription. The Acting Governor asks whether the Board of Deputies can give the names of any particular Jews in Aden who wish to apply for special consideration; if so, he states that full consideration will be given to their requests.

(b) Hashed Camp has been dismantled by the Jewish Distribution Committee and no longer exists. The Aden Government has, however, leased to the Committee at a peppercorn rent the camp opposite the old Hashed Camp where the Aden Protectorate Levies Guard were stationed subsequent to the riots of December, 1947. This Camp is estimated to hold 500 persons at present, and it is being considerably expanded. The Acting Governor understands that the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has provided a team of doctors, nurses and administrators as before. There is no intention on the part of the Government of Aden to prevent Yemeni Jews from making Aden a staging post in their

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50493

journey to Palestine, provided that security and health precautions are observed and that their onward transmission at an early date is assured. It has now been reported to the Acting Governor that a further airlift contract has been signed, and was to operate from the end of June. The Acting Governor states that it is estimated that between 25,000 and 35,000 Jews may emigrate from the Yemen, and he trusts that measures will be taken to regulate the flow, as otherwise the danger to health and the threat to security would be very real. I hope that the importance of this point will be borne in mind, and that there will not be in Aden at any one time greater numbers of Yemeni emigrants than the Camp can accomodate, or than can be sent quickly on their way to Israel.

(c) With regard to the suggestion that the Aden Government should assist the Joint Distribution Committee representatives to obtain the permission of the Imam to enter the Yemen in order to take up with the Yemini authorities the question of direct emigration from that country, the Acting Governor understands that the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is no longer pursuing this proposal. Their reasons for dropping it are understood to be the recent receipt of reports that the Imam has now granted Jews permission to leave the Yemen (and to return to it if they so wish), and the agreement of the Aden Government to Yemeni Jews coming to the colony of Aden in transit for Israel. This confirms the information that I recently gave you in my letter of 24th June. "

I would draw your attention particularly to portion marked in pencil that if you can give me any information of particular cases of hardship I can take the matter up again with the Colonial Office.

With you reply I should be most grateful to have an account of the position in Aden and in regard to the Yemeni Jews.

I hope you are keeping well. From what I know of you, I have no need to ask whether you are keeping active.

With Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.



August 10th, 1949.

Mr. A.G. Brotman  
c/o The Board of Deputies of British Jews  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
LONDON, W.C.I.  
-----

Dear Brotman,

I wish further reference to yours of the 29th ultimo which reached me on the 8th instant. I am sending a copy of your letter to our Headquarters in Paris and at the same time asking our Administrator in Aden, Mr. J. Simon, to reply to the last sentence of para (a) of your letter: "The Acting Governor asks whether the Board of Deputies can give the names of any particular Jews in Aden who wish to apply for special consideration; if so, he states that full consideration will be given to their requests".

2. The first sentence of para (b) of your letter: "Hashed Camp has been dismantled by the Jewish Distribution Committee", is not in accordance with the following facts :-

- a. One of the conditions which Governor Champion made last October for agreeing to the emigration of the Yemenites of non-military age, was, that after we have emigrated all of the Yemenites from the camp and from the Crater we would liquidate the camp; that is withdraw our personnel etc.;
- b. In the course of my conversations with Governor Champion in Aden last March, I asked for reconsideration of the condition which he made and urged him not to compel us to "dismantle" the camp. The Governor was adamant and contended that if the camp was allowed to remain, this would attract more Jews from the Yemen whom he was determined to keep out of Aden at all costs.
- c. It was the Aden Government and not the JDC who dismantled the camp. The Government destroyed even the permanent and semi-permanent buildings; removed the water pipes and sanitary arrangements; disconnected the electric connection etc. The camp was made completely uninhabitable.

3. As a result of the Aden Government's action described in the preceding para, the JDC was compelled to invest about £10,000 for the installation, equipment and erection of a new transit camp which has a maximum capacity of only 800 - 1,000, whereas in the old Hashed Camp we accommodated 4,000 people. The Central British Fund contributed £4,000 towards the



52/495

Mr. Brotman

9.8.1949.

cost of the establishment of the transit camp. The JDC may have to enlarge the transit camp to accomodate up to 2,000.

4. There are in Aden about 1,200 Adenite Jews, of these about 2-300 probably will emigrate to Israel. At the request of the Jewish Emergency Committee in Aden, we discontinued temporarily the emigration of the Adenites. The Jewish Emergency Committee asked for this postponement in order to give the Adenites an opportunity to dispose of their properties at higher prices. Now we are asked immediately to start again the emigration of the Adenites. We will be able to comply with this request only to the extent that Yemenites will not be ready. The transportation of the Yemenites, who are coming into the Aden Protectorate and into the Aden City in considerable numbers, must take preference over the emigration of the Adenites. This is the only way we can assure the safety of those Jews who are able to leave the Yemen. A change of mind by the Imam may stop this flow at any time. Therefore we must take the fullest advantage of the present favourable position. One of the conditions which the Aden Government has made for permitting the Jews from Yemen to enter the Protectorate and Aden was that the transit camp should have a maximum of one thousand souls at any time and that we would transport them to Israel without delay. It is therefore essential to assure their rapid transportation. Postponing the emigration of the Adenites may cause some inconvenience to these, but in the light of the present circumstances it is more important to emigrate the Yemenites than the Adenites because the Yemenites are always in the potential danger of being deported to the Yemen in the event that we do not transport them to Israel.

5. In the third phase of "Magic Carpet Operation" we already have brought to Israel 733. None has arrived during the last ten days because the Commando plane which we were using developed engine trouble. This will be repaired shortly. We also have asked for two Skymasters to be sent immediately from the States to help transport the 1800 in the transit camp and the hundreds of others who are waiting to be admitted into the JDC transit camp.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Viteles

HV:LLF

copy to AJDC - Paris.



52/49

29th August, 1949

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Viteles,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, reference 52/10/16769, together with the enclosures.

I note what you write in paragraph 3. and will certainly look round to see if there is anybody whom we can send out but I very much doubt whether there is any possibility. There is a great shortage of doctors in this country and I do not think any of them would be prepared to go to Aden for two or three months.

I will, however, look into the matter and write you again in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

H. Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee.  
Tel-Aviv.  
Israel.



הוועד היהודי האמריקאי המאוחד לסיוע (ג'וינט)  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MIDDLE EAST

המשרד למזרח התיכון

Tel-Aviv, September 2nd, 1949 תל-אביב

Mr. M. Stephany  
The Central Relief Fund  
Woburn House  
Upper Woburn Place  
London, W.C.1

REF. 52/14/16989

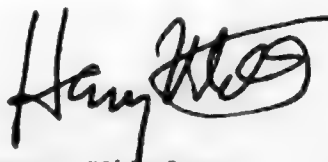
Dear Mr. Stephany,

Yemenites - Aden

Supplementing our 52/10/16469 of the 22nd ultimo  
we send you herewith copies of exchange of cables between  
.... the Chief Secretary, Aden Government, and ourselves, which  
are self explanatory. After reading the enclosures you  
will appreciate that the situation in Aden is very critical,  
but we are doing our very utmost in an endeavour to secure  
sufficient aircraft.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Harry Vitales

LIF

encl: 52/14/16828

52/14/16989  
17027

6886



A. J. J. D. C.  
Jerusalem

cc: Chief Rabbi  
Government - Mr. Comay  
J.A.  
JDC - Paris

52/14/16928  
File: 52/14/16928

COPY OF INCOMING CABLE

from CHIEF SECRETARY ADEN

dated 29.8.49

received on 29.8.49

VITELKS FOINTFUND TELAVIV

- NO 70 YOUR TELEGRAM OF 8TH AUGUST CAMP POPULATION NOW STANDS AT 5000 AFTER REPEAT AFTER TWO AIRCRAFT HAVE JUST TAKEN TWO LOADS INTAKE NOW SERIOUSLY EXCEEDS RATE OF DEPARTURE CAMP CONDITIONS ARE BAD AND GROWING WORSE WITH INCREASING NUMBERS IN AGREEING TO AIRLIFT ADEN GOVERNMENT NEVER CONTEMPLATED THAT NEW CAMP WOULD APPROACH OLD HASHED CAMP IN POPULATION IT CANNOT ACCEPT A NORMAL CAMP POPULATION EXCEEDING 1000 NEED FOR ADEQUATE AIRLIFT AS LAID DOWN AS CONDITION AND ACCEPTED BY YOUR ORGANISATION IT WILL SHORTLY BECOME NECESSARY TO REIMPOSE BAN ON JEWS ENTERING COLONY AS WELL AS ON JEWS ENTERING PROTECTORATE FROM YEMEN EFFECT ON JEWS WOULD BE SERIOUS AND FAR REACHING IN ALL PROBABILITY IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO REOPEN THE MOVEMENT VERY LARGE ACCUMULATION OF JEWS WOULD BE EXPECTED ON YEMENI FRONTIER ESPECIALLY IN NEIGHBOURHOOD OF RAHIDA COSTLY CAMP ARRANGEMENTS AT SUCH PLACES WOULD BE ESSENTIAL FOR WELFARE OF JEWS BUT THEY WOULD BE IN GRAVE DANGER OF MOLESTING BY LOCAL POPULATION ADEN GOVERNMENT WOULD BE RELUCTANT FOR THESE REASONS TO IMPOSE BAN BUT COULD TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR FATE OF JEWS OR SUBSEQUENT WORLD PUBLICITY ONLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IS FOR YOU TO LAY ON IMMEDIATELY FURTHER AIRCRAFT TO CLEAR PRESENT CAMP POPULATION AND COPE WITH INCREASING INTAKE IN ORDER TO GIVE YOU TIME BAN WILL NOT BE REIMPOSED FOR SEVEN DAYS

CHIEF SECRETARY ADEN



File:

File:

5/2/19

Date: 30.8.49

cc to: Chief Rabbi  
Government - Mr. Conroy  
J.A.



A. J. J. D. C.

Jerusalem

File : 52/14/16989

52/500

COPY OF INCOMING CABLE

from CHIEF SECRETARY ADEN dated 1.9.49 received on 1.9.49

VITELES JOINTFUND TELAVIV

No71 YOUR TELEGRAM 30TH AUGUST FOUR AIRCRAFT QUITE INADEQUATE AS MIGRANTS ARE ALREADY ARRIVING REPEAT ARRIVING AT RATE OF 2500 PER WEEK AND RATE IS INCREASING RAPIDLY AIRCRAFT SHOULD NEED PERIODIC OVERHAUL SO IMPROBABLE MORE THAN THREE WOULD BE AVAILABLE AT ANY ONE TIME MINIMUM NUMBER CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL IS SIX AND IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ASK FOR MORE FUELING PROVISION OF SIX STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO STOP FLOW OF MIGRANTS TIME LIMIT MUST BE RETAINED DUE TO EXTREME URGENCY OF MATTER BUT WILL REGARD SEVEN DAYS AS STARTING FROM TODAY

CHIEF SECRETARY

Cc to: Mr. Shai  
J.A. - Jerusalem - Tel Aviv (Immigration Dept)  
Mr. Comay



A. J. J. D. C  
Tel-Aviv

File: .....

COPY OF OUTGOING CABLE

1.9.49

52/50

To ..... Date: .....

TO CHIEF MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
RE: VERTICES TO WHOM RELIED YOUR TWO TELEGRAMS C BLED US  
THIRTYFIRST COPY NEWYORK TELEPHONED FORTHING TRIED  
1.1 NK 15 VINC TONIGHT AND FOURTH PLACE ASSURED  
STARTING OPERATIONS ADEN MIDDLE NEXT WEEK UNQUOTE THEREFORE  
WITHIN THREE DAYS THREE REYNOLDS ONE COMMANDO  
OPERATING FULLSTOP AGAIN ASSURING YOU DOING  
UTMOST OBTAIN ADDITIONAL SKYCASTERS BUT IMPOSSIBLE  
MUST AT LEAST YOUR INDULGENCE BECAUSE APPEARS  
IMPOSSIBLE COMPLY YOUR REQUEST SIX PLANS  
BY EIGHTH VITLES

Go to: Mr. Shai  
J.A. - Jerusalem - Tel Aviv (Immigration Dept)  
Mr. Comay



52/502

11th September 1949

NLT

VITELES JOINTFUND TELAVIV

YOUR LETTER 2nd 3 PTMBER RECEIVED CONTENTS NOTED STOP WOULD  
YOU BE INTERESTED CHARTER YOUR EXPENSE TWO YORK FOUR ENGINE  
PLANES EACH CARRY FORTY PASSENGERS COST TWELVE SHILLINGS MILE  
STOP COST RETURN JOURNEY ADEN LYDDA ADEN TWO THOUSAND POUNDS  
COST POSITIONING AIRCRAFT FOURTHOUSAND POUNDS EACH STOP

CABLE IF INTERESTED REGARDS

STEPHANY

RUSTon 3925



52/14/17559

CABLE OUTGOING TO  
NLT  
JOINTFUND PARIS

13.9.1949

52/14/3

fivefourthree Simon spent 12th 13th Israel reports revised estimates over twentythousand still Yemen stop expects those still Protectorate enter camp increasing population thirteenthousand and spite ban daily infiltration several hundred stop probably thousands border Yemen side forwhom authorized cash assistance by courier if possible and necessary stop because lower economic strata immigrants than previously we paying headtaxes transportation border Aden fourpounds per capita nearly all arrived September stop unable predict Imams action against stranded inside Yemen borders because Yemen British skirmisher paragraph Adengoven reluctantly and Simons opinion justly imposed ban because JDC undertaking provide transportation without undue delay unimplemented stop Unlikely lift ban unless camp cleared within reasonable time stop Simon we agree governments insistence eight skymasters reasonable which allowing maintenance mishaps transport fivethousand weekly stop One present skymasters lost onetrip and another twotrips thisweek fourth arrived today stop Maguire flew Rome investigating Italienco offer two skymasters stop please contact Stephany about following cable received quote Woulda be interested charter your expense two York fourengine planes each carry forty passengers cost twelveshillings mile stop Cost return Journey Aden/Lydd/Aden twothousand pounds cost positioning aircraft fourthousand pounds each stop cable if interested unquote Simon considers essential continue complete blackout including publicity about ban timebeing stop WJC representatives Aden sending exaggerated reports London paragraph Local building labourers insufficient inefficient therefore unable keep pace with increased requirements even most primitive buildings sanitary other arrangements thoughthusfar managed provide sun protection everybody stop Water supply arrangements



1504  
1)  
cable No.543 to Paris  
PAGE - 2 -

13.9.49

sufficient but sanitary canalization grossly inadequate which plus over-crowding low resistance because undernourishment creates real potential typhus epidemic already typhoid cases but undangerous stop Already abnormal infant mortality and abnormal percentage intestinal diseases **dysentery** including our staff stop Simon correctly thinks that much accelerated transportation best perhaps only preventative because this also enables improvements before ban lifted. stop Simon suggests contacting BOAC who claim have large planes paragraph Simon agrees need special feeding practically everybody but possible only Israel because unable obtain required food except some milk for children nursing mothers stop Plan centralized feeding unimplemented because impossible provide physical facilities and obtain adequate suitable help even for staff mess paragraph Simon considers Jewagency staff possibly one exception unfit unhelpful quarrelling between themselves and Schreijbaums successor unsuitable complaining about comparatively unimportant details stop If possible please discuss Raphael whose promise visit Aden unfulfilled paragraph Simon supports Jewagency's request clothes Israel because immigrants receive only minimum required trip stop Greatest urgency distribution sweaters on arrival because evenings abnormally chilly stop cable soonest whether old or new clothes you able send possible airfreight ELAL reduced rates for distribution Aden and Israel

**VITTEL**



52/50  
**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

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PARIS (7<sup>e</sup>)

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CABLES & TELEGRAMS  
JOINTFUND-PARIS

September 14, 1949

Mr. M. Stephany,  
The Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON W.C.1.

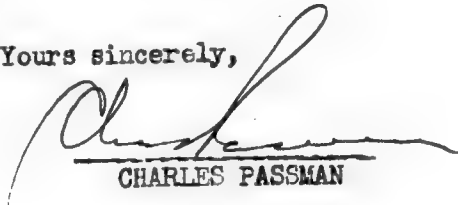
Dear Mr. Stephany,

*note sent - not returned for filing*  
We just received a cable from Mr. Viteles,  
in which he quotes a cable received from you about the offer from  
a British Company to operate two York planes from Aden to Israel.

For your information, the same Company also approached  
us in Paris, and we have looked into their offer and found that the price  
is very high, and also that they were not prepared to recondition the  
planes to make them more suitable for our purposes.

Thanking you for your interest,

Yours sincerely,

  
CHARLES PASSMAN

CF/nr



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VIA IMPERIAL

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SENT OUT

BY

CW DVXA202/S183/13 TELAVIV 15/14 13 NET -

LC - STEPHANY MIGRATE LONDON -

ZEROFOUR RELAYED YOURCAB TWELTFTH PARIS  
REQUESTED THEM CONTACT YOU - VITELES \*

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL.



September 21st, 1949

Dear Mr. Stephany,

This is in reply to your AS/AC of the 29th ultimo received on the 20th instant.

- ..
1. We are transmitting herewith, for your information, a copy of our cable to Paris No.543 of the 13th instant, which is self-explanatory.
  2. We now have five Skymasters and expect to receive the sixth.
  3. The camp population is nearly 13,000, and daily arrivals number 400.

I take this opportunity to wish you a Very Happy New Year. With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Viteles

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1  
-----

llf

encl: as abovementioned



52/1508  
MS/AC

5th October, 1949

Dear Mr. Viteles,

Many thanks for your letter of the 21st ultimo enclosing a copy of your cablegram to Paris of the 13th ultimo.

I was glad to hear yesterday that the Tudor Aircraft which was hired from Air Vice-Marshall Bennett's Office duly arrived with the maintenance men and the spare parts. I was very happy to be able to expedite the despatch of this craft.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

H. Viteles, Esq.,  
American Joint Distribution Committee.  
Tel Aviv,  
Israel.



# THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

*The Organ of British Jewry—Established 1841.*

32 Farnival Street, London, E.C.4

Telephone: HOLborn 9252 · Telegrams: Jaechron, Fleet, London

## PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT

26th January, 1950.

Mr. Stephany,  
Central British Fund for German  
Jewry,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Further to our telephone conversation this morning, I enclose the chapter on Aden from the survey of "Jewish Communities in the Muslim Countries of the Middle East" by Dr. Landshut, which I mentioned to you.

I would be very grateful if you would glance through it and let me have any suggestions about its accuracy, especially regarding the present Jewish population of Aden (last paragraph of the attached).

With many thanks for your cooperation,

Yours sincerely,



J. M. JAPP,

Publications Manager.

Encl:



52/10  
ELT

JOINTFUND PARIS FRANCE

PLEASE CABLE APPROXIMATE NUMBER ADENITE JEWS NOW  
IN ADEN AND INDICATE NUMBERS OF INTENDING EMIGRANTS  
TO ISRAEL

STEPHANY MIGRATE LONDON

M. Stephany, C.B.F. 1. 2. 1950



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ISSUING OFFICE

NO.

SENT

BY



**CW TVLN2702 TELAVIV 19 2 1600 -**

**NLT STEPHANY MIGRATE LONDON -**

APPROXIMATELY TWELVEHUNDRED ADENITE JEWS  
LEFT OF THOSE TWO TO THREEHUNDRED  
CLAIM INTEND IMMIGRATE ISRAEL -

**PASSMAN ✕**

**2702 ✕**

Enquiry respecting this Telegram should be accompanied by this form. Mark Your Reply VIA IMPERIAL



5. 1/11  
6th February, 1950

MS/AC

Dear Mr. Japp,

I duly received your letter of the 26th ultimo together with the draft of the chapter on Aden from the survey by Dr. Landshut which you enclosed.

I did not want to answer your letter before having verified certain information and it is only this morning that I have received a cable regarding the present situation of the Jewish Community in Aden.

The position is that in March 1949 there were only 2,600 Jews left in the Colony and of these 1,400 were emigrated to Israel during last year. The present Jewish population of Aden is about 1,200 and we are informed that between 200 and 300 of these claim that they intend to emigrate to Israel.

I return your draft herewith and hope that this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

J.M. Japp, Esq.,  
The Jewish Chronicle.  
Publications Department,  
32, Farnival Street,  
London, E.C.4.



# THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

*The Organ of British Jewry—Established 1841.*

32. Farnival Street, London, E.C.4

Telephone: HOLborn 9252 · Telegrams: Jaechron, Fleet, London

PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Your Ref: MS/AC

8th February, 1950.

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund for German Jewry,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Thank you very much indeed for your letter, and for the carbon copy of the chapter on Aden from Dr. Landshut's survey of "Jewish Communities in the Muslim Countries of the Middle East."

May I say that it was most kind of you to take all this trouble to verify the present position for us; and I am more than grateful.

Yours sincerely,



J. M. JAPP,  
Publications Manager.



JDC COUNTRY DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

P A R I S

O c t o b e r 1950

52/514

R E P O R T

on the

POLITICAL SITUATION IN NORTH - AFRICA

by Mme. Hélène Cazes-Benatar  
AJDC Delegate for North-Africa.



It is a great consolation, in the midst of the horrors arising out of the Second World War, to see the solidarity which the Jewish population of the world have shown in the face of misfortune. All are united to ease the lot of hundreds of thousands of DPs who have been physically and morally tortured and beaten.

However, during the last few years, a new problem is presenting itself with ever-increasing keenness : that of the North African Jews, living for the most part, in the Mellahs or the Haras, ravaged by trachoma, tuberculosis, ringworm, syphilis and undernourished; a population in utter misery, whose children, due to the lack of sufficient schools, without kindergarten or child-care institutions, run the streets or pass their days in the squalid Hederim or Koutab, where they catch trachoma and ringworm before they can ever learn the alef-beth. Other and older children, not being able to enter the vocational training schools, become artisans in a small way, or else, in an endeavour to gain easy money, go in for thieving.

Over and above all this physiological and moral misery, there is the certain DANGER which menaces this Jewish minority of half a million souls, lost in a mass of about twenty million Arabs, whose scorn and hidden hostility towards the Jew has been transformed to open hate since the establishment of the State of Israël.



2. 2/5/16

From the social point of view, our Country Directors will be able to tell you the work which JDC is doing and must undertake in these countries to aid in the rehabilitation of the North African Jews, who now constitute one of the greatest reserves of Judaism. As far as I am, myself, concerned, I must try to give you a brief outline of the political situation in North Africa.

All information given you by me during this report is absolutely impartial. I am making reference to precise facts, the majority of which have been made public through the newspapers or by means of official declarations.

In spite of apparent ethnical and geographic unity, the part of North Africa with which I intend to deal is split up into two political blocs :

- 1 ) French Africa (Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia)
- 2) Libya (Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and Fezzan).



(I) FRENCH AFRICA.

MOROCCO, ALGERIA AND TUNISIA are all three under French influence - since a comparatively recent date - all three are mainly inhabited by Moslems and with two minorities - European and Jewish - and all three are fields for foreign influence. In each of them, however, the Jewish question can be viewed in a different light.

Three Moslem lands under French control, whose boundaries stretch from the Sahara Desert to the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean - a vast expanse of land where deserts are to be found beside lofty mountains, where soils rich with minerals vie with fertile plains. Men have marked borders on the map but, in reality, from a geographic point of view, these countries make up one sole land with a common religion (Islam), a common language (Arabic) and, at the present time, a common aim (Independence).

What does differ in each country is the form of administration and the stage of evolution vis-à-vis Western civilization.



M O R O C C Oa) Morocco :

Morocco is, as you no doubt know, divided into three parts : the French Protectorate, the Spanish Protectorate and the International Zone of Tangiers. Juridically, the Sultan of Morocco, His Majesty Si Mohamed Ben Youssef, is the Head of all Morocco. The Moroccan administration is the only one which is found in all three of the zones but, at the same time, a Western foreign administration shares this power in each zone.

In the French zone, when France signed the Protectorate Treaty with the Sultan of Morocco at Fez in 1912, she found an economically poor country, tightly governed by a Moslem feudal aristocracy, grinding down and keeping under their domination, in abject poverty, five million ignorant Arabs - mostly agricultural.

The population of Morocco, in 1912, was composed of :

- a) the foreigners,
- b) the Moslems
- c) the Jews.



5. 21519  
a) The Foreigners :

Foreigners lived all their lives under extra-territorial law and those who had no known nationality had a personal statute fixed for them by the law of their particular place of residence. If their place of domicile was fixed as being in Morocco, they did not come under the Moslem local laws since the Moslem law was not applicable to Europeans even stateless ones (see A. de Lapradelle 'Introduction in the Dahir of the Civil Condition of Frenchmen and Foreigners in the French Protectorate of Morocco' ).

When France established her protectorate in Morocco, she gave to the Western powers all the necessary guarantees for their subjects and, with the exception of England and America, all renounced the benefit of the Capitulations Régime and the extra-territorial consulate which they had enjoyed up to then. England, having concluded an Agreement with France in 1938, only the United States now have preferential rights. America has to this day, in Morocco, a regime of preference over all other countries, thus constituting 'a state within a state'. This means that there is a special jurisdiction for American subjects, who can only be tried by an American Tribunal or the American Consular judges. No law, promulgated by the Sultan or the French authorities, is applicable to them unless previously accepted by the State Department in Washington.

b) The Moslems :

For the native Moslems, France left as it was an absolute feudal hierarchy, limiting herself to reducing the influence bit by bit by the



creation of a 'parallel' French administration, comprising nearly all the administrative powers.

A vast welfare program was put under way to permit the evolution of millions of Arabs and some Jews who constitute the Moroccan population, while considerable investments permitted the exploitation of a rich, but uncultivated, country.

c) The Jews :

But what of the Jewish minority ?

The Arabs commonly call them 'DHIMMI' (the vanquished). They were subject to a Head Tax (Pact of Protected Submitted Tributaries).

They are descendants of the seven tribes of Judaea, who left Palestine after the destruction of the Temple, or descendants of those expelled from Spain and they could take advantage of neither the Moslem nor the European legal statutes. They formed a minority, mostly composed of merchants and artisans of whom those in commercial relationship with American or European firms were endeavouring to obtain from the Western powers the right to be American, French or Spanish 'protégés', so that they could then benefit from the consular protection of the particular countries of which they were the proteges. The others, an impoverished mass, were 'Moroccans, proteges of H.M. the Sultan' .

The correspondence exchanged between Sir Moses Montefiore and the Sultan of Morocco resulted in the definition of the juridical status of the Jews living in Morocco who were unable to claim American or European nationality.



Sir Montefiore's visit to Morocco :

Sir Moses Montefiore went to Morocco at about 1863, to investigate the cases of two Jews who had been condemned to death on the charge of having assassinated the Spanish Consul at Mogador. One was from Tangiers and the other from Mogador. He arrived too late to save the one from Tangiers, who had been executed in the interval, but he undertook the ride, on horseback, from Tangiers to Mogador, accompanied by his suite.

During the trip across Morocco, he was able to study the pitiful situation of the Jews and intervened on their behalf to the Sultan.

The Sultan stated, in his reply :

'The he had advised his representatives that the Jews  
'living on his territory were to be under his protec-  
'tion and that their persons and goods were to be  
'respected' .

This declaration is set-forth in the Dahir of the 5th February, 1864.

By this Dahir, H.M. the Sultan limited himself to assuring the Jews living in His Empire that they would not be submitted to any unmerited treatment and that they have the right to demand justice like all the other inhabitants of the country.



However, in my opinion, nothing in the terms of this dahir can be taken as showing that he conferred on them Moroccan nationality.

When France established her protectorate of Morocco, she found, therefore, a Jewish minority who were, according to the Sultan's letter, 'HIS MAJESTY'S PROTEGEES' .

The Fez Treaty is mute on their subject and their status is not given.

It has become the custom to call them 'MOROCCAN JEWS' and to assimilate them with the Moroccan Moslems although, JURIDICALLY, there is no Law which treat them as such.

Mr. Abraham I. Laredo of Tangiers who is writing an historical work on 'THE ORIGIN AND STATUS OF THE MOROCCAN JEW' and also Mr. A. Ghouragui, whose book on the same subject has just been published, are excellent sources of sure information, much of it hitherto unpublished.

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In spite of the fact that, according to the French authorities, Jews and Moslems enjoy the same Moroccan nationality, history proves the contrary. In 1918, a Council of the Moroccan Government was created by the French administration to advise the Resident-General in the management of Moroccan public affairs. All the members of this Council were Moslems and the Jews - who would either benefit by, or be submitted to the decisions taken by this Council - had no representatives. It was only in 1947, that six Jewish counsellors were appointed to this consultative body.

In fact, the so-called 'Moroccan Jews' are pariahs, victims of endless discrimination and cannot even claim to come under the 'Charter of Human Rights' as promulgated by the United Nations.

#### The Evolution of the Native Population :

##### Schools :

Schools have had a great influence in Moroccan history.

About 1860, (after Sir Moses Montefiore's visit), the Anglo-Jewish Board of London sent a director to found schools at Tangiers and Mogador.

The 'Alliance Israélite Universelle' set up schools at Tangiers, at Tetuan in 1862 and in Casablanca. These were the only schools in the country to be attended by rich and poor Jews and also Europeans of all nationalities and religions and a few Arab boys belonging to wealthy families.

The scale of education widened immediately after the creation of the



French protectorate. Franco-Arab schools were opened in all centers and an agreement between the Protectorate and the Alliance permitted the development of a large but still insufficient educational network for the Moroccan Jews. Moslems became accustomed to attending elementary and high schools; some even followed university courses (law and medicine), travelled and were able to observe the conditions of life in countries with centuries-old civilization, like France and England.

Some of them refused to consider the extent of progress realized so far in Morocco. Judging themselves sufficiently advanced already, they wanted - in a country where the masses had always been ruled and had no political experience - to set up conditions similar to those of the most advanced European nations. Misunderstandings, and 'maladresses' caused friction, and sometimes clashes between Europeans and Arabs, thus furnishing ever-increasing numbers of recruits for those movements aiming to rid themselves of the governorship of France.

The welfare program for the Moroccans, both Moslems and Jews, is being intensified and France is obliged to respect the numbers of both elements of the population. The Jews, numbering about 250,000, represent about two-thirtieths of the total Moroccan population.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the 'Alliance Israélite', the Jewish communities, the JDC and the French Government, who have always shown themselves very sympathetic and liberal towards our co-religionists, the percentage of Moroccan Jews to benefit from social reforms is much



higher than the two-thirtieths to which their respective numbers entitle them.

THE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT :

Let us now return to the Moslems.

From 1930, the question became a political one with the creation of the 'Comité d'Action Marocaine', formed by a small number of moderate intellectuals, who understood the beneficial action of France but desired to be strong enough to do without it and therefore wished, in cooperation with France, to establish a program of accelerated reforms. It was, however, difficult for France to accede to their political demands.

The advantages on the social plane and the slight satisfaction afforded in the political field, was not enough for a group of extremists who took advantage of the situation which existed in France and North Africa between 1939 and 1945 to indulge in nationalistic agitation and, what was even more dangerous, this agitation was becoming more and more popular, since it was swelling its ranks from the masses. These men didn't lack for recruits who were easy to find in a country subject to martial law and reduced to very strict food rationing, due both to the war and to its still insufficient economic development..

In addition, the American liberation in November 1942, brought with it the new idea that there were other countries in the world which, in Arab eyes, were even richer and more powerful than France.

In January 1944, the new Moroccan Independence Party, the ISTIQLAL, went into action. On the 11th January, 1944, the party submitted a



memorandum to His Majesty, proclaiming that both Spanish and French Morocco had the right to Independence.

Riots broke out at Rabat, Casablanca, Fez and Meknès. At Rabat, the armoured columns of General Leclerc were obliged to intervene in order to restore calm without bloodshed.

But the start had been made. Agitation became even more intensified by the Arab soldiers. They had fought in Europe for years, welcomed as liberators by enthusiastic European populations. They returned to find that Morocco was still, in 1945, in a state of siege. Almost nothing was provided for them in the way of employment, housing, etc... Once again they had to submit to humiliating regulations which they had forgotten existed and most of them began to swell the ranks of the discontented. They were indeed precious recruits since they were accustomed to discipline, could handle rifles and were used to the techniques of modern combat. Moreover, just after the war, a considerable quantity of clandestine armaments were circulating and depots were formed everywhere.

The intellectuals of the party kept themselves up-to-date on the results of all international conferences. The Sultan of Morocco, after long hesitation, showed that he had been won over to the cause of Independence in his speech at Tangiers in 1947, when he demanded that Morocco should come under the terms of the Atlantic Charter. The Resident-General, Labonne, who had accompanied the Sultan to Tangiers, was immediately recalled to Paris and replaced by General Juin, who has, up to now, firmly maintained discipline and order in this country.



With the outbreak of war in Korea, world political events were taking a bad turn. Nothing was heard but plans for rearmament and defence.

In the case of war, French North Africa constitutes a strategic position, the importance of which has already been stressed during the Second World War. An inter-ministerial conference was held in Paris on the 12th August, 1950, in the presence of representatives from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, to determine conditions for the integration of North Africa into the defence system of Western Europe.

On the 11th of September, 1950, the ISTIGLAL party addressed a Manifesto to H.M. the Sultan and to the Resident-General, with copies to all diplomatic representatives in Morocco, setting-out all their complaints against what they call 'French Colonialism', reminding the Sultan that the Second World War had been for Syria, Pakistan and other Moslem countries a war of liberation and declaring that the Moroccan people could never consider themselves the allies of those who scorned their right to liberty and independence.

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SPANISH MOROCCO :

The zone placed under Spanish protectorate is governed by a High Commissioner, nominated by Spain.

This section, much smaller - but infinitely richer - than the French zone, is submitted to the same political influences as the neighboring zone. The discovery of large secret stores of weapons in February, 1950, at El Ksar confirmed the extent of the Moroccan Nationalist Party's ramifications in this zone.



The Jewish minority, amounting to fifteen thousand persons, have always been well-treated by the Spanish Government who have never shown any racial discrimination but, nevertheless, an overwhelming majority of them wish to emigrate to Israel as soon as ever they can.

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TANGIERS - INTERNATIONAL ZONE :

The population of Tangiers (Moslem and Jewish) is far more advanced than that of the rest of Morocco and the difference between Moroccan and European Jews less marked than in the French Zone. In 1856, a Treaty signed at Tangiers between the Sultan of Morocco and the representatives of the European nations gave the city the status of 'diplomatic capital of Morocco' .

For political and economic reasons, the European nations sent families of their subjects to Tangiers so as to constitute colonies of the different nationalities. That is why we find in Tangiers, French, Spanish, Belgian and English families who, for three or four generations have been born, lived and died in Tangiers, whilst still retaining their original nationalities.

In December 1923, representatives from France, Spain and Great Britain drew up a statute, which was modified, at Italy's request, in July 1928.

In June 1940, Spain took over Tangiers which was placed under Spanish administration. However, immediately after the Armistice in 1945, (the 11th of October to be precise), Tangiers returned to the same status as in 1928, with the sole difference that Italy was no longer represented



amid the governing body.

The present statute of Tangiers :

As it now is, the statute of Tangiers places this zone under a permanent neutral regime; all acts of war being strictly forbidden in the zone of Tangiers.

Legislative powers are in the hands of an Assembly composed of 30 members, i.e.,

- 6 Moslems (Moroccans)
- 3 Jews (one of whom is Mr. Laredo, our delegate, and another Mr. Hassan, President of both the Jewish Community of Tangiers and of OSE-Tangiers.)
- 3 Americans
- 3 Russians
- (the remainder represent Spain, Great Britain, Belgium, Holland and Portugal).

The city of Tangiers is one of the rare places in the world where all currency can be freely negotiated. This fact has brought in a considerable amount of foreign capital and the city thus enjoys a state of development which is practically unique in the world.

The influence of the nationalist party is less felt here than in any other part of the Cherifian Empire and the feeling of insecurity existing in the French and Spanish zones is unknown here.

Tangiers is still considered by other countries as a diplomatic and neutral city par excellence. It is, in fact, there that America held a conference of the United States Consuls of Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco from October 2nd to October 7th, 1950, but the full details and results of this Conference have not yet been made public.

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## ALGERIA

4530

ALGERIA is part of France. The 'départements' are French states and her Governor is nominated by the Ministry of the Interior, just as is the case for metropolitan civil servants. Her inhabitants, Jews and Moslems, are able to acquire French citizenship. Compulsory education is extended to all. French civilization, introduced into all domains of Algerian life, has transformed an ignorant people who fought against General Bugeaud under the orders of the Arab chief, Abd-el-Kader, into a population with a highly educated elite who now actively participate in the political life of the country. But these advantages, although granted by France, transforming Algeria into a similar country to the metropolis, and the elevation of Moslems to important political posts, have caused the awakening in this intellectual elite of a spirit of independence and a wish to fight what they call 'colonialism' .

### The Algerian Jews :

The Algerian Jews can be clearly divided into two types :

- a) those who possess French nationality, reside in the large towns and are treated as equals by the most advanced French elements. These are known as the ones who are 'assimilated'.
- b) those living in Southern Algeria who remain 'natives' because, according to certain authors, they did not express their desire to become French at the time of the Crémieux Decree, preferring to retain the right of polygamy, granted them by the Law of Moses. However, according to other rumours, declarations made by these Jews in 1830 have been traced, claiming the rights offered under the Crémieux Decree, but

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the local officers at that time did not transmit them since they considered these people too backward to become French citizens.

What is certain is that the Jews of southern Algeria, with the exception of those living in the large towns, live similar lives to the Moslem natives, are uneducated and ravaged by trachoma and ringworm.

In the reforms undertaken by the Algerian Government in 1949 and 1950, improvement of the health and living conditions of the southern populations is high on the list. During the 30 years following the publication of the Crémieux Decree, the Jews, both in the North and the South, had to fight hard against violent anti-Semitism which, eventually, abated thanks to the intervention of high-ranking officials in France.

After half a century's calm, during which anti-Semitism was less openly shown, massacres took place in Constantine in 1935, when the Arabs appear to have been incited and urged by a group of notorious anti-Semites. Then came the Vichy Laws and racial discrimination against the Jews, which found fertile ground among the Arab and European non-Jewish elements in Algeria. According to Mr. Michel Ansky in his book, 'The Jews of Algeria', the demographic distribution of the Algerian population furnishes us with a good base for understanding this question.

In a population where 86 % are natives (mainly Moslems), 9 % are French (either colonials or naturalized foreigners), 1.7 % are metropolitan



French and 1.5 % are Algerian Jews of French nationality. Among this tiny proportion of 1.5 %, there is a high percentage of intellectuals - lawyers, doctors, university professors, politicians, etc. - and these men pay an important part in Algerian public life in the larger towns, which causes jealousy and anti-Semitism.

Comité d'Etudes Sociales :

These Algerian Jewish intellectuals met in Algiers in May 1937 and formed the 'Comité d'Etudes Sociales' whose aims were :

- a) to fight against anti-Semitism,
- b) to draw closer to the Moslems, entering into relations with the more moderate Moslems.

They tried to check the violent action of the nationalist extremist parties and it was for this reason that, on the 17th January 1937, the 'Oulémas' organized meetings in Algiers, which were attended by Moslems, French Catholics, Jews and Free-thinkers. (Bernard Lecache of the League Against Anti-Semitism was present) .

This Committee continued its work, even during the time of the Vichy Government and everything was done to make the Franco-Moslem-Jewish collaboration bring goodwill into the mutual relations between the different sectors of the population. The creation of the State of Israël, however, checked this friendly Moslem-Jewish relationship.

An attempted pogrom in July 1948 was speedily put-down by the French Government.

I think that the Jews of Algeria are now convinced that cooperation between Jews and Moslems is no longer possible and that they are thus



compelled to collaborate with France, always on the 'qui-vive' to defend, when necessary, their lives and property.

The little Jewish communities in the south, comprising approximately 15,000 souls, have only one desire : to cure themselves from trachoma and other contagious diseases so that they can emigrate to Israël at the earliest possible moment.

#### The Nationalist Movement :

In 1926, a Nationalist movement was formed called the 'Etoile Nord-Africaine' but this was dissolved at the beginning of 1937.

On the 11th March, 1937, the Popular Algerian Party (P.P.A.) was constituted with the remnants of those faithful to the 'Etoile Nord-Africaine'. The P.P.A., in turn, was dissolved on the 26th September, 1939.

At the Liberation, after the Second World War, another movement was inaugurated which was practically the same as the P.P.A. It took the name of the 'Movement for the Triumph of Democratic Liberties' (M.T.L.D.). This is a movement of nationalist tendency, pretending to be based on the San Francisco Charter of the United Nations. The Atlantic Charter is cited by this party as, more or less, their program for liberation.

In 1943, another party was created, called 'The Union du Manifeste Algérien', which also claims the right of the Algerians to govern themselves without any help from France.

#### The Para-Military Movement :

Quite apart from all this, the French authorities have discovered a vast



military training system under cover of numerous Moslem sports clubs and, above all, the Algerian Moslem Scout movement. As there are Algerian Moslem scouts in all urban centers, we must take it for granted that advanced military training is given all Moslem youth throughout the country.

The Constantine department of Algeria is extremely difficult to control. Mountain ridges stretch for hundreds of miles and there, clandestine nationalist organizations prepare their equipment and train their forces. The traffic in arms between Libya, Tunisia and Southern Algeria is facilitated by these mountainous frontier regions.

On the 8th of May, 1945, V.E. Day - full of joy for us who saw the end of the war with Germany - French farmers in Southern Algeria were mercilessly massacred by a crowd of fanatics. French planes bombed Guelma and Setif in the Constantine department as reprisals. Mass arrests and the deportation of the ring-leaders, who were thrown into gaols, reminded the Moslem nationalists that murder led to neither independence nor liberation. But the revolt was not stopped. On the contrary, an increasing hate began to be manifested. In the large northern towns of Algiers and Oran, the peril seems less imminent, but in southern Algeria, in the Constantine department, one sees an atmosphere of increasing despair.

Nationalist plots and hidden stores of arms keep being discovered and, even quite recently, in the months of March and April 1950, machine-guns, rifles, grenades and huge stocks of munitions were disclosed at Philippeville, Bône and Tébessa. In addition to this, there were maps on which were marked the principal buildings in the Constantine Department and how they could be blown up at 'Heure H'. These were side by side with



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thousands of violent nationalist pamphlets.

The nationalist party papers, which are free to express themselves openly, since there is no censor, all emphasize :

'the birth of a national conscience among the Algerian  
'people and their unshakable will to arrive at a life  
'of freedom on the soil of their ancestors ..... '

'The Algerian people have not the mentality of slaves  
'and one day, inevitably, they will be free' .

(Algerian Republic, 3rd February, 1950).

You will realize from all this that the agitation there is great,  
and no-one can say when and how the Arabs will be able to let loose  
a new massacre in this department.

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T U N I S I A:

TUNISIA has been under French influence since 1870. France found in this country the same situation as in Morecco - a feudal hierarchy of Tunisian Moslems, a Jewish minority and a group of Europeans, mostly come from Sicily, Malta and Southern Italy.

The Tunisian Jews :

Amongst the Jews, many of them were from Livorna in Italy and constituted a separate community from the Tunisian Jews. In Tunisia too, the Alliance schools started (in 1870) to spread education and the French language.

At Sousse, Sfax and Tunis, the Jewish people thus acquired a French education which permitted them to play an important part in the establishment of the French Protectorate and to participate in the economical and political expansion of Tunisia. In this country, which is rapidly developing, a section of the native Jewish population lives in the towns, and is becoming advanced and assimilated. Many of them attend French universities. Nevertheless, the great majority of the Jews live in the small towns of the interior or in the South, continuing to exist in poverty - ravaged by trachoma and tuberculosis..To escape from this poverty, they drift towards the big towns, mainly to Tunis, whose 'Hara' or Ghetto, overflows into the suburbs of Ariana and Hammam-Lif. Jews on the Isle of Djerba in Tunisia have remained outside the bounds of civilization and,



until the last few years, they have lived in practically the same manner as their ancestors who came from Palestine after the destruction of the Temple of Solomon.

France has protected the Tunisian Jews much more than she could in Morocco. Here, there is no discrimination. Tunisian Jews can attend governmental elementary schools, receive care in any of the town's hospitals and, what is much more important, can acquire French nationality by naturalization.

The political parties : 'Destour' and 'Neo-Destour' :

France has also shown herself liberal to the Arabs, raising their economic, health and social standards. But a party of old-established Tunisians, still faithful to their feudal principles, organized themselves under the name of the 'Destour' .

In 1934, a new party, even more extreme in tendency, the 'Neo-Destour' was born under the leadership of Habib Bourguiba, who is the present Tunisian leader. Arrested in 1938 by the Resident-General Peyrouton, he was transferred to Marseilles in 1940, from whence he was liberated by the Germans. However, it appears that Bourguiba refused to join forces with the Germans and, on the contrary, incited the Tunisian people to fight for the Allies.

The occupation of Tunisia by the Germans, the Liberation and then the attempts to put back on its feet the country which had been ruined by



the invasion, calmed the tension of all political parties. The Bey of Tunis was in exile and Bourguiba was not too popular. The Bey refused to receive him. Yet, still, the Tunisian leader did not change his views. UNO's decision to grant Libyan independence and the infiltration of partisans over the Libyan border, permitted him to create a powerful 'Neo-Destour' party.

His relations with the Palace of the Bey become more cordial and, in 1950, he made a tour of Tunisia and was acclaimed everywhere as liberator. He called together the representatives of the Jewish communities and made a spectacular demonstration of his friendship towards the Tunisian Jews at the synagogue in Gabès.

After discussions at the Residence and the Palace of the Bey, he went to Paris where he set forth the seven aims of his program, i.e. :

1. return of executive powers to the Tunisian people,
2. a Tunisian government responsible for law and order,
3. that the post of General Secretary at the Residence be suppressed,
4. that the French civil servants in high administrative posts be revoked,
5. the departure of the French 'Gendarmerie',
6. that the Town Councillors no longer be elected by the French administration,
7. the constitution of a Tunisian National Assembly.



In brief, what the Tunisian leader demand is that the Tunisian people become master in their own country, that they exercise all public and police functions with, for the time being, French help. Altogether, Bourghiba resumes the situation vis-à-vis France in these terms :  
'Domination - No; Collaboration - Yes' .

The Resident-General Mons, who had himself prepared a plan of reform in favour of the Tunisian people had to leave Tunisia in May 1950 and was replaced by Mr. Périllier, who accepted certain points demanded by the 'Neo-Destour'. Among these reforms, I must mention the right for members of the 'Neo-Destour' to join the Government. The present Minister of Justice in Tunisia is a member of the National Party, the 'Neo-Destour' .

I will give you here an extract from Bourghiba's most recent declarations to a French newspaper : 'Our demands are moderate. The Tunisian people are far more advanced than the Libyans, yet the latter, for international reasons, have obtained their independence. On the other hand, the geographic position of Tunisia makes it an excellent bastion. This bastion belongs to us' .

'We want France to cease her regime of direct administration and, remaining faithful to her promises, respect the treaties she has concluded with Tunisia, the sovereign state. We will turn to the East or to the West, towards the one who will give us our national independence' .



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LIBYA

LIBYA, which is composed of Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and Fezzan was, until 1939, a flourishing Italian colony where all parts of the population were happy. Then came the war : the Italian and German armies under Rommel and the Allied armies under Montgomery and Koenig succeeded each other at Tobruk, Benghazi, Misurata, Tripoli and in Fezzan. The land was ravaged and economically destroyed.

In 1943, Tripolitania and Cyrenaica were placed under British administration and the Fezzan under French administration. The situation in the country, from the social and economical points of view, from 1943 to the present date, will be described to you by Mr. Ruben Hassan.

The political fate of Libya was discussed at the United Nations Organization (U.N.O.) and at the session held at Lake Success on November 21st, 1949, by the seventeen members of the Sub-Commission, it was decided that Libya should be declared Independent on the 1st of January, 1952, or even earlier.

During the discussions at Lake Success and after the decision concerning Libyan independence, the Arab political parties in Libya increased their activities and there were spectacular demonstrations in the roads of Tripoli and Benghazi by thousands of Arabs belonging to the different parties which often degenerated into pitched battles between them,



obliging the Jews and the Europeans to remain in their houses behind closed doors.

However, in order that you may properly understand the political situation, I must divide Libya into three separate parts :

Fezzan, Tripolitania and Cyrenaica.

Fezzan : has about 40,000 inhabitants who are all Moslems.

There are no divisions, no political parties and the problem is therefore very simple since there are no Jewish populations, no Italians and only a few French - all belonging to the French administration.

Cyrenaica : Here, also, the problem is fairly simple. The 30,000 Italians who were there before the war have all left; the 6,000 Jews, living there until September 1949, have nearly all been evacuated and barely 250 remain, all of whom are now busy liquidating their belongings. A few dozen Greeks and Italians who still live in Cyrenaica, cannot be said to constitute a minority problem.

Nearly all the population of Cyrenaica (about 200,000) are of Moslem faith. Even before the UNO decision in November, 1949, the uncontested ruler of Cyrenaica was the Emir Esseid Mohamed Idriss Essenoussi, who is a 'prince' considered as having not only temporal power, but also as the head of the Sencussi religious Islamic sect.



The Senoussis have been the leaders in Cyrenaica for the last century and they led the war against the Italians from 1911 to 1917.

The present Chief of Cyrenaica succeeded his cousin and, having accepted that Cyrenaica be governed by Italy, he was proclaimed Emir over the hinterland of Cyrenaica, with Agedabia, in the south-west, as the capital.

When Mussolini and the Fascist Party came into power, they renounced the previous Italian policy with the Senoussi and forced Idriss Senoussi to take refuge in Cairo.

In 1940, the Emir organized an irregular army and fought with the British against the Italian Fascists and the Germans. In return for his co-operation, the British Government promised that Cyrenaica would never return to Italian domination, and, a year ago, the British appointed him Emir over all Cyrenaica and, indeed, advocated to the UNO his nomination as King of the whole of Libya.

At the end of last year, the Emir set up at Benghazi a House of Deputies, composed partly of members elected by the Cyrenaicans and partly of those appointed by himself. His ministers were elected by him, prior to being approved by the House of Deputies.

This assembly worked out a proposed statute for Cyrenaica, which was published at the beginning of 1950. Regarding the

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Cyrenaican Jews, it was officially stated that those who wished to leave the country would, until September 1951, be permitted to take with them all personal belongings. That is why the wealthier Jews are still in Benghazi (since the Jews from all the other towns have been evacuated) trying to liquidate their assets before expiration of the deadline. The total estimated value of their property and business effects, represents about half a million pounds sterling. The British Administration acts as political advisers to the Emir Senoussi.

#### TRIPOLITANIA :

In Tripolitania, the situation is much more complicated. The population is comprised of 700,000 Moslems and what are known as the 'minorities' represented by 30,000 Italians, 3,500 Maltese, 400 Greeks and 13,000 Jews. The Jews who previously were widespread throughout Tripolitania are now concentrated in Tripoli and the small village of Amrus, 5 kilometers from Tripoli.

Tripolitania can be divided into two spheres of influence :

- (1) the coastal and urban centres and
- (2) the nomad and semi-nomad tribes of the Interior.

In view of the projected independence, much competition has been entered into by the leading Arab families in order to

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assure themselves of privileges in the new State and many political groups have been formed.

The two most important are :

I. The National Congress :

Affiliated to the National Party, under the leadership of Sadawi Bey, who is of Tripolitanian origin and left during the German occupation. He was ex-counsellor to King Ibn Saud of Arabia. Another leader, the President of the National Party, Hag Mustapha Mizran, is the present representative for Tripolitania in the UNO Commission for Lybia.

This group has much more influence in the city of Tripoli than in the other towns or villages of the interior.

2. The Independence Party :

A second group, the Independence Party, maintains friendly relations with almost all the tribes of the interior and also has partisans in the city of Tripoli.

Its leaders, the Muntassers, are related to the leading families of Tarhuna, Garian, Misurata and Sirte. On the other hand, Tahar Bey Caramali also adheres to this party.

Tahar Bey Caramali is the present mayor of Tripoli and is a descendant of the Caramali family who ruled Tripolitania for about 200 Years, just before the Turkish domination.

The Independence Party is far more sympathetic to European ideas and towards the minorities.

Now, I think you have the picture of the situation in Libya, prior to UNO's decision in November, 1949.

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THE U.N.O. DECISION :

On UNO's decision, Mr. Adrian Pelt was appointed President of the Commission for Libya, and charged with the preparation of a plan for the transfer of power from the British Administration to the future Moslem State. The UNO Council, with Mr. Pelt as President, was permanently set-up in Tripoli, in January 1950.

In order to discuss and prepare the report regarding the future independent state of Libya, a Commission of twenty-one members were appointed - 7 from each country (Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and Fezzan). Of the seven members representing Tripolitania, six are Arabs (one of them is the leader of the National Congress) and the seventh one represents the minorities (Jews, Italians, Greeks and Maltese).

The election of the Minority representative led to a long discussion, and it was finally Comm. Marchino, an Italian, who was chosen.

The Minority representative is having a hard time, and his task is extremely difficult. The Arabs did not wish to recognize as minorities, with the right of representation in the Assembly, any persons of European nationality - such as the Italians, Greeks, Maltese and those Jews who have not Libyan nationality. According to the Arab interpretation of the UNC decision of November, 1949, the only ones who have the right to be represented, are the Jews of Libyan nationality.



Comm. Marchino insists that the Greeks, Maltese, Jewish and Italian minorities, who have been living in Libya for many years, have the right to cooperate in the preliminary work for the constitution of the future Independent State.

This discussion is still pending before the UNO Assembly.

His Excellency, the Chief Administrator of Tripolitania, nominated another Advisory Council, including a Jew and an Italian, to advise the Administration on all provisions in conjunction with administrative structure.

This Council started work on May 23rd, 1950, and, during its second session on May 29th, 1950, at the request of the Arab members, they examined and approved entry visa for 80 families of Arab refugees from Palestine. These families were authorized to establish themselves in Tripolitania and steps were taken to request the necessary financial aid from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine. Should this Agency refuse to allocate the full amount required for helping these refugees, the question of additional assistance from the Tripolitanian Administration would be examined.

Since the Libyan people are not very familiar with administrative work, UNESCO has just allocated \$ 57,500 for the purpose of training 250 Libyans as clerks and typists to provide personnel for government offices when Libya achieves its independence in January, 1952, and to grant scholarships to persons who will take over high Government posts (Extract from the 'Jewish Telegraphic Agency' dated 19th September, 1950) .



Towards the end of August, 1950, Mr. Adrian Pelt, the United Nations Commissioner for Libya, and the members of his commission left for Geneva where they presented preliminary reports concerning their work in Libya since January 1950. At the next UNO Assembly in October 1950, the United Nations Council for Libya will present additional reports and, also, according to rumours, the definite plans adopted for relieving the Commission of its task in Libya.

The United Nations Council for Libya has been reticent in publishing details of the work they are doing, but the Pakistan and Egyptian delegates to the Council have been more informative and gave separate press conferences on the 29th. August, 1950. I will resume for you their views, as published in the 'Sunday Ghibli', a Tripolitanian Governmental newspaper :

'The fact that, according to the Assembly's decision, Libya is due to become an independent State in January 1952 should not be interpreted as implying that the Libyan people will have to wait until that date for their independence'. The delegates stated that this was an outside date and that there was a strong probability that Independence would be achieved much sooner. 'The Libyans have no need to be given time to learn the art of ruling themselves' they declared.

Such is the situation in Libya at the present time, but we are hoping that, after UNO's October session, we will know the definite date set for the total independence of this future Moslem state.

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## C O N C L U S I O N

I think I have told you with the maximum impartiality the two aspects of the political problems in French North Africa and Libya, i.e.:

- 1) The evolution of the political parties,
- 2) How the Jews are affected by this evolution in each country.

However, my report would be incomplete if I didn't speak of the undeniable foreign influences in the different countries.

North Africa, due to its geographical position in the Mediterranean basin and as door to the Atlantic Ocean, constitutes an important strategic point in the case of European or World conflict. Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia are rich in minerals, as yet unexploited. The discontent of the native populations and the Franco-Arab-Jewish antagonism hardly facilitates the task of France.

I. AMERICA .- Certain newspapers openly accuse America of wishing to establish itself in Morocco, so as to avail themselves of the riches of the country and even of wishing to establish an American Protectorate there.

You have perhaps heard in America of the quarterly review 'The Arab World', whose offices are at 1182, Broadway, New York, N.Y., and which, according to a French newspaper, is patronized by American citizens of Arab descent in order to cement American-Arab friendship.



During the summer of 1944, a certain Mr. Keirallah, according to the French newspaper 'L'Observateur', wrote in this review : 'It is imperious for the Americans to acquire the Protectorship of Morocco' . Speaking of the Moroccans, Mr. Keirallah added, 'They would be delighted to exchange the French protectorship for an American protectorate' . I myself have not had an opportunity of checking the article in 'The Arab World' (of 1944) to which this French journalist refers in its copy of July, 1950, but if, as I think, these facts are correct, the task of our Moroccan director is not so easy.

In Algeria and Tunisia, America has similar rights to those of other foreign countries. Considerable suspicion, rightly or wrongly, exists against any American interference, whether economic, political or even for welfare and philanthropy - like ourselves.

2. ENGLAND is second in importance in North Africa. Her interests seems mostly concentrated in Southern Algeria, Tunisia and Libya. Since 1938, English influence has greatly diminished in Morocco because - as I already told you - England entered into an agreement with France, renouncing all claim to the Capitulation regime, from which she had benefited since the establishment of the French protectorate.

3. GERMANY. Profitting from the defeat of the French in 1940, Germany sent her civil and military agents to North Africa, where they took advantage of the German victories at that time, to disseminate during the years 1940 to 1942, violent anti-French and anti-Jewish propaganda, the effects of which are still felt at the present



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time. Besides this, it is by no means certain that all the German agents have left the North African territories and, indeed, it is rumoured that many of them are still hidden in the Arab douars where they form perfect instructors for an eventual revolt.

4. Finally, the ARAB STATES and, above all, the EGYPTIAN influence and Abd-el-Krim propaganda from Cairo.

Now, I must tell you how Abd-el-Krim arrived in Cairo.

The Emir Cherif Abd-el-Krim-el-Kattabi, ex-Moroccan leader who was beaten by the Franco-Spanish Forces in the Rif in 1936, was in a forced exile on the French Island of La Réunion until 1947, together with his family. That year, his mother died and he stated to the French authorities that it was his intention to have her buried in Morocco. France agreed, thinking he would be more co-operative than in the past. When the French boat, aboard which he was travelling, docked at Port-Saïd in Egypt, Abd-el-Krim asked to go ashore and, the ship's officers not doubting his return, since the coffin containing his mother's body was aboard, his request was granted. Abd-el-Krim went to Cairo, where King Farouk granted him refuge. The French officers had to proceed with his mother's funeral.

Since 1947, safely at Cairo, Abd-el-Krim created the National Committee for the Liberation of North Africa, and has never ceased to incite the North African Arabs to demand independence. This propaganda met with success. In July 1950, a telegram from Cairo and signed by representatives of the three large North African Nationalist parties announced, according to a French newspaper, that the Istiqlal

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(Moroccans), the M.T.L.D.(Algerian) and the 'Neo-Destour' (Tunisian) parties have linked with the Liberation Committee for North Africa. A central office was formed with headquarters at Cairo. Whilst the Arab League has failed in its intention to group around it the Arabs of the Moslem countries, Abd-el-Krim, as 'Cherif' or religious leader, has succeeded. This is therefore a group based - not only upon political ideals but also upon religious identity, and the situation may easily degenerate into a Holy war against all who do not belong to Mahomet's religion. According to a U.S. newspaperman, Abd-el-Krim has declared that 'Twenty-five million Moslems in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco are ready to take up arms for the liberation of North Africa and that, in the case of an uprising, the Arab soldiers now in the French and Spanish armies would desert to join the revolutionary army fighting for the Holy Cause' (New York Times, 16th March, 1950).

What danger would threaten the Jewish minorities - who scarcely amount to half a million - faced with this mass of twenty to twenty-five million Arabs? Up to now, the nationalist parties have not made any positive anti-Jewish declaration but the facts are there to prove to us that whatever may be the aims of such a revolt, the Jews are always the scapegoats and the first victims. Each time that the Arabs have shown their hate of the foreign occupants, they commenced by pillaging, ruining and killing the defenceless Jews. The persecutions at Sefrou in 1944 and murders in Egypt in 1948 were not purely anti-Semitic acts, any more than the pillages and pogroms at



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Oujda and Djerada in June 1948 too. Some say that the killers at Djerada were incited by the Nationalist Party adversaries who wished to prove by the savagery of this act, the incapacity of this Party to govern an independent State. Others say that the Nationalist party wanted to let loose a revolt against France and that the leaders were swept off their feet by the masses who rushed to the Jewish shops and houses at Oujda, spoliating and killing, and continued at Djerada where they massacred the little community : women, children and old folk by chopping them to pieces with axes and proclaiming that each blow struck for the Cause was Holy. It must not be forgotten either that, since the creation of the State of Israel, Arab-Jewish antagonism had steadily increased and that an open hate has now succeeded to a secret and hidden hate. To the North African Arab

JEW means ZIONIST

and therefore an enemy of the Holy Land, one of those who have dispossessed 300,000 Arabs in Palestine and who must be fought wheresoever they may be found.

In all the North African countries, the majority of Jews are concentrated in the large towns, but there are several thousands in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, scattered in little communities in the villages of the interior and in the mountains, lost in the midst of a mass of Arab warriors and fanatics, infinitely superior in number, who, at the least command or the least quarrel would not hesitate to massacre without mercy these forgotten Jews.

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Right at the beginning of my speech, I spoke of the Jewish solidarity which came into being after the war, after the loss of the lives of millions of Jews.

In North Africa, our Country Directors are doing their utmost with a very limited budget to help the Communities and the Governments to improve the health and living conditions of these unfortunate people. But their security is in danger, especially for those living in the little towns of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.

We arrived too late in 1940 to save the Jews of Europe. Will we also arrive too late to save the Jews of North Africa ?

I should not like to sit down without expressing my deepest admiration for our Directors and Delegates in North Africa : Mr. Bein, Director for Tangier , Morocco and North Algeria, Mr. Laredo and Mr. Reinhard of Tangier, Mr. Gozlan of Algeria, Mr. Horwitz, Director for Tunisia and the Constantine Department of Algeria, MM. Hassan and Loskove in Tripolitania who have all, in addition to their great competence for social and welfare work, the diplomacy and excellent sense of timing necessary for the work in North Africa.

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ME/BL

2nd October, 1950

Dear Mr. Joseph,

With reference to our conversation on the telephone this afternoon, I find that the Aden Grant has not yet been fully paid and that there is a balance of £4,646 still outstanding.

In regard to the Religious Education for Greece, this was fully paid in April 1st by a remittance to the Joint.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

H. O. Joseph, Esq.,  
7/8, Princes Street,  
E.C.2.



52/555  
7 & 8, PRINCES STREET,

LONDON, E.C. 2.

3rd October, 1950.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Thank you for your letter of the 2nd October giving me the information about the Aden grant. I note that there is quite a substantial balance not yet paid and which, I presume, will not now be required. At any rate, I think that in the event of any demand being made, the sum should not automatically be paid over, having regard to the very small numbers who are now left in Aden.

Yours sincerely,  
*James*

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund for Jewish Relief  
and Rehabilitation,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place,  
W. C. 1.



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Paris, November 10th, 1950.

22  
19  
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The Central British Fund  
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London, E.C. 4, 1

Mrs. M. Stern

Enclosed please find text of the Report of the 1950 Country Directors  
Conference of October 1950.

Yours faithfully,

A. Baruch

for The North American Department

Enc. 1  
ABa/pc

The Joint Distribution Committee receives its funds in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal. Outside of the United States, the Joint Distribution Committee has the active cooperation of the South African Jewish Appeal, United Jewish Relief Agencies, Canada; Central British Fund, Organizacion Central de Ayuda, Argentina; Comites Auxiliares do Joint, Brazil; United Jewish Overseas Relief Funds, Australia; Joint Relief Committee, Mexico; and others.



17  
NB/AF

26th September, 1951.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

Re: ADEN.

I have just seen Mr. Messer of Aden about the school there. There are still about 300 children for whom there is no decent schooling.

They are at last repairing the girls' school, so that it can be used for both girls and boys and the Government is paying half the cost. They need a Headmaster and if possible a Headmistress, from here, as there is nobody in Aden competent and nobody can be got from Israel. The Government in Aden will pay the greater part of the salary, but at the very low scale of Aden and clearly if any person or married couple goes from here, there will have to be considerable supplement.

I remember that a considerable sum was set aside in 1948 and 1949 for the Aden Community; can steps be taken to make that available now for the school? I should think that a sum of £1,000.0.0. a year for two years would cover the extra required for the married couple or for two teachers from England.

Yours sincerely,

Dictated but not signed by Prof. Norman Bentwich.



52/558

MS/BL

1st November, 1961

Dear Norman,

re: Education in Aden.

I have now had an opportunity of looking into the position of our accounts with regard to Aden, in view of the request which you have received to find two people to act as master and mistress at the Boys' and Girls' Schools there.

You will recollect that in May 1948 the Council made a vote of £4,500 for the rebuilding of the Girls' School but this was cancelled in 1949 as we understood that the reconstruction would not then take place.

The Council did, however, make a vote in March 1948 of £500 for educational purposes in Aden and £500 for educational equipment and a further vote in July 1949 of £1,200 for educational purposes. None of these grants have yet been used, so that we have, apparently, £2,200 unexpended.

I should be glad if you would kindly let me have a scheme showing how you propose spending the money, so that I can place it before the Council at its next meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor Norman Bentwich,  
"Hollycot",  
Vale of Health, N.W.3.



# Eightieth Anniversary Year

Inland Telegrams: ANJEWGLO, Kincross, London



Overseas Telegrams: ANJEWGLO, London.

## ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

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November 19 1951.

M. Stephany, Esq.,  
Central British Fund,  
Woburn House,  
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Dear Mr. Stephany,

As you are aware the Anglo-Jewish Association has for many decades interested itself in Jewish education in the Near and Middle East maintaining and subsidising schools in Israel, which are attended, among others, by the children of refugees from Germany, Austria, Iraq and elsewhere. The Association has always taken particular interest in the affairs of Jews in Aden - a British territory - where it used to maintain a teacher, and at the time of the anti-Jewish riots the Association sent out Professor Bentwich to enquire into the situation of the Jews there and made strong representations to His Majesty's Government to alleviate their condition.

Representatives of the Jewish Community in Aden have approached the Anglo-Jewish Association for help in re-establishing the Jewish School for the three hundred boys and girls of school age who remain in Aden.

It will be remembered that the Jewish Boys' School and the Girls' School were very badly damaged in the riots in December 1947 and the Boys' School was almost entirely destroyed.

In May 1948 the Central British Fund voted the sum of £4,500 for the re-building of the Girls' School, which it was intended to use for both boys and girls, but owing to the large emigration from the Aden Community to Israel, that plan was not carried out.



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The Joint Distribution Committee engaged a Head Teacher from Israel for Aden and he was there until some time in 1949. Since he left, there has been no qualified teacher and such education as has been given to the Jewish children has been of a primitive character.

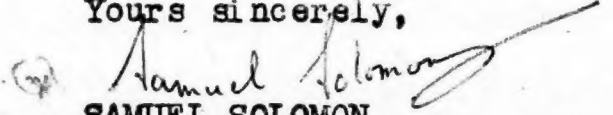
The Anglo-Jewish Association is anxious to help the Community to get suitable teachers for both boys and girls and to help in the provision for their salaries. There seems to be an opportunity of getting an excellent teacher, Mr. I. Cohen, and his wife. He is the son of the Rev. M. Cohen, formerly Minister in Margate, and was himself in charge of the home for the refugee children from Germany at Windemere; he has since been a teacher at Carmel College, and is now teaching in schools in North London. He is an Orthodox Jew, has a good knowledge of Hebrew and seems excellently qualified for the post in Aden. His wife is a trained nurse and also can teach, and should be able to give him valuable help with the girls.

It is understood that the Central British Fund allocated in 1949 a sum of £2,200 for educational purposes in Aden and that sum has not been spent. Application is made for this fund to be made available to the A.J.A. and to be applied to the emoluments of the Head-teacher and the equipment of the School. The community in Aden will be responsible for repairing part of the Girls' School which will be required and the flat in the School which would be the home of the Head Teacher.

It would seem desirable that the Association should be the channel for the payment of the teacher, and it would be able, it is thought, to arrange for his salary to be paid through a responsible person in Aden.

As Mr. Cohen and, failing him, any person appointed, may want to visit Aden before bringing his family out, provision will have to be made for the return passage before he takes up a definite appointment. There will eventually have to be an agreement with the Aden Community as to their contribution, and as to the provision of proper housing and domestic help for the teacher. But at this stage we would ask for the C.B.F. to re-allocate the fund which they have already held for educational purposes in Aden, to carry out this new plan.

Yours sincerely,



SAMUEL SOLOMON  
Foreign Affairs Secretary.



52/561

MS/BL

5th December, 1961

Dear Mr. Solomon,

With further reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo regarding your Association's interest in the education of Jewish children at present in Aden, I have to inform you that this matter was considered at the Meeting of the Council of the Central British Fund held on the 3rd inst.

At that Meeting, the Chairman, Mr. Anthony de Rothschild, mentioned that Sir Henry D'Avigdor Goldsmid who is Vice-Chairman of the Jewish Colonisation Association, had informed him that he thought this application could well be considered by that organisation which had funds available for educational purposes.

I have therefore been asked to advise you to apply to the Jewish Colonisation Association in this connection.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Samuel Solomon, Esq.,  
Foreign Affairs Secretary,  
Anglo-Jewish Association,  
Muburn House.



#### Source Citation

Aden: Reports and Correspondence, 1947–1951. 1947-1951. MS Archives of the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief, 1933-1960 52. World Jewish Relief. Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/ATBJSA359027253/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=775fb00f&pg=10](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/ATBJSA359027253/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=775fb00f&pg=10). Accessed 18 Apr. 2022.

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